

Inspection of Best Start Daycare

35-37 Eastham Village Road, Eastham, Wirral CH62 0BL

Inspection date: 19 December 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Staff follow the home routines of babies, which helps them to settle well and to feel secure and safe. Children enter the nursery happily. Staff help children to build on what they already know and can do as they play. They focus well on developing children's communication and social skills. Children draw freely on paper with crayons and on boards with chalks. They also enjoy a range of sensory play. They feel items they have found on walks, such as leaves and pine cones. They manipulate dough scented with cinnamon. Activities such as these help children to develop the muscles they need to support their early writing skills.

Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are well supported. Staff liaise well with parents and other agencies to help all children, including children with SEND, to make good progress. Although the nursery does not have its own outdoor area, staff take children out into the local area for daily fresh air and exercise. In addition to developing physical skills, children learn how to stay safe while walking on pavements and when in public areas. Children also develop a good awareness of their local community and the people who work in it. They demonstrate their good communication and social skills as they greet people who work in the local shops with a wave and a cheery good morning.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Since opening, changes to how space is used enables three-year-old children to access the toilet independently. Replacing the kitchen window has improved hygiene and further refurbishment is scheduled for the staff toilet area. Leaders are increasingly reflecting on what is working well and what they need to improve.
- Overall, the number of staff and their qualifications meet requirements. A new room leader role is helping staff to develop the quality of practice as the team grows. Leaders monitor staff practice, and this is beginning to help them identify where additional training is necessary. They are keen to focus on staff's well-being. They organise events for staff which help them to feel appreciated.
- Children develop good language and literacy skills. Staff speak clearly and face children when talking so they can copy their mouth movements. All staff are trained to assess children's speech and language skills. They put plans in place for those children who need a little extra support. Babies enjoy naming what they can see in pictures while looking at books. Older children listen attentively to stories and enjoy regular visits to the library.
- Babies learn to match shapes as they place pieces into inset jigsaws. Older children count baubles as they place them in to segmented containers. Staff use these and other activities, such as role play, to help children develop good mathematical skills as they play.

- Children tasted Chinese food at Chinese New Year and coloured pictures of hands at Diwali. During the inspection, children listened attentively to the Christmas story and visited the local church to look at the nativity scene. Activities such as these, linked to calendar events, are helping children to talk about and develop an awareness of their culture and those of others.
- Staff encourage children to behave well, use good manners and consider the needs of others. Children say please and thank you and ask for help if needed. During World Wellbeing Week, children talk about using kind hands and words.
- Children are encouraged and supported to try to do things for themselves. They help themselves to water when thirsty. They talk about healthy eating while helping themselves to the nutritious breakfasts and afternoon snacks. They take their food out of their lunch boxes and tidy up after themselves, placing empty packaging in the bin.
- Staff help children to build on their physical development while at the local park. They lead exercise sessions and running races, which helps to build children's strength and coordination. Children practise physical skills, such as throwing, catching and kicking balls.
- Parents are kept well informed of their child's day and development through daily discussions, written sheets and an electronic system. Parents meet regularly with their child's key person to exchange information about children's learning. This helps to provide children with some continuity in learning between nursery and home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Comprehensive induction procedures focus on training staff in safeguarding and first aid and developing their understanding of the nursery's policies and procedures. Staff know how to identify and report concerns about children's welfare. Staff help children to develop an awareness of safety. They remind children to pick toys up off the floor, so others do not slip on them. Every day, children go for walks in the local area and visit places, such as the park. Staff assess the safety of routes to be taken and use reins to walk children safely to the local park.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To further improve the quality of the early years provision, the provider should:

- embed the arrangements for supporting, coaching and training staff to foster teamwork and continuous improvement
- evaluate the setting against clear criteria and check that actions taken are having the desired impact on the quality of care and education.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2675051
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	10315354
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	46
Name of registered person	Best Start Daycare Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2675050
Telephone number	0151 327 8557
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Best Start Daycare registered in 2022. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 2, five at level 3 and one at level 6. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, all year round. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lynne Naylor

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk together.
- A joint observation was carried out by the inspector and the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with staff, children and parents at appropriate times during the inspection.
- Meetings were held with the leadership and management team.
- The inspector looked at a sample of the nursery's documents, including evidence about staff suitability and training.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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