

Inspection of The Nursery School Charlwood

Charlwood Road, Lowfield Heath, Crawley RH11 0QA

Inspection date: 10 March 2025

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

There is a clear ethos across the setting. Leaders share the intentions for learning effectively, which are clearly understood and implemented by staff. The curriculum is well sequenced, secure and embedded through staff's good practice and interactions with children. This contributes to children making the progress that they are capable of. Babies watch in wonder such as when they view the bubbles or stars moving down the tubes. They enjoy the feel of the different textures of the cloth toys and brightly coloured material. Staff instigate a game of peek-a-boo with the see-through material. Babies take great delight in this game, smiling and showing the clear bonds they have with staff.

Toddlers engage readily in their musical enrichment session. They become fully engrossed, following instructions and listening intently. Staff encourage children to be active such as when they stand and wave their ribbons to the beat of the music. They delight in popping the bubbles using their hands as the bubbles fall. Older children develop good levels of independence and have regular opportunities to build on their skills. Staff use observations of other children's climbing skills to show children how they can climb more successfully on the small frame. This enables children to persist and succeed.

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

- There is a strong leadership team that oversees the quality of the setting and makes continual and well-targeted improvements. The team is dedicated to providing high-quality care and education for the children and their families. Leaders support staff successfully to develop their professionalism and to progress within the company. Staff report on the effective support they receive for their training and well-being.
- Staff know the children well. A clear system is in place to enable all staff to understand children's interests and what they need to learn next. This contributes to staff making the most of their interactions with children and enhances their learning opportunities.
- Staff demonstrate new skills to children, which, through repetition, children copy such as babies banging the bricks together. They receive effective praise for their achievements and grin with pride. This enables children to learn, develop and gain new skills, extending their development.
- The support for those children with special educational needs and/or disabilities is highly successful. Staff promptly identify any potential gaps in children's learning and use individualised planning for children that identify targets successfully. Staff receive effective support from leaders to put effective tools and strategies in place, enabling them to provide the best opportunities for children.

- Children learn about similarities and differences such as in the languages they hear or speak at home. For example, staff celebrate and embrace different languages, inviting parents to read stories or hold puppet shows in children's home languages.
- Parents share their delight in their children's experiences while at the setting, such as the regular outings and the outdoor forest school. Leaders request parental feedback to guide them in making further improvements. However, leaders and staff do not explore further ways to make sure that all parents recognise how they can further support their child's learning at home.
- Leaders and staff offer children an array of extra enrichment opportunities both in the setting and the community. Children access activities in the forest school area and go on trips that staff base on children's current interests to extend their learning experiences. For example, when making pizzas, they plan an impromptu trip to the supermarket to buy the ingredients and make the pizzas on return to the nursery.
- Children develop a keen interest in literacy from a young age and gather around with eagerness to listen to staff reading to them. Children listen to stories, and staff ask them open-ended questions to help extend children's speaking skills. Children are curious and interested in finding out more. They ask their own questions, demonstrating good language development.
- Staff deploy themselves well to ensure they meet children's needs effectively. Children go to staff for comfort and support and seek them out when playing. Children demonstrate feeling comfortable in the staff's company and have a strong sense of belonging at the nursery. Staff are kind in their interactions with children and create a culture of mutual respect. Children behave well and are polite.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- explore alternative methods to share information with parents on ways in which they can further support their children's learning at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2703434
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	10389995
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	110
Number of children on roll	229
Name of registered person	The Nursery School Company Holdings Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2703432
Telephone number	01293664133
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The Nursery School Charlwood registered in 2022 and is located in Crawley, West Sussex. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm. There are 42 staff working at the nursery. Of these, 28 have a relevant childcare qualification. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors

Helen Penticost
Kelley Ellis

Inspection activities

- The manager, deputy manager and inspectors completed a learning walk together and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspectors carried out a joint observation with the manager and deputy manager.
- The inspectors spoke with staff and interacted with children.
- Parents shared their views about the setting with the inspectors.
- The inspectors observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact of this in children's learning.

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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