

Inspection of Monkey Puzzle Purley

69 Brighon Road, Purley CR8 4HD

Inspection date: 14 April 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

Children arrive happy and enjoy their time at nursery. Staff provide a warm and welcoming greeting on arrival. The nursery has an effective key-person system in place which supports children to feel safe and secure. Staff are attentive to children's needs, providing cuddles and offering reassurance when needed. Staff exchange information with parents which helps them to support children's well-being throughout the day.

Staff plan and provide a broad curriculum which sparks children's interest and imaginations. This helps them to build a range of skills and experiences to prepare them for school. Staff ensure the curriculum is tailored to provide extra support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Staff engage in conversations as children play and extend their learning. For example, babies enjoy exploring with paint and mark make with pens. Toddlers hunt for Easter eggs in shredded paper and fill buckets with sand to make birthday cakes. Older children make dough and problem-solve when it becomes too sticky.

Staff manage behaviour well. They promote independence and encourage good manners. Children listen well and follow instructions. They learn to be kind and share. Older children learn the difference between making 'good' or 'sad' choices.

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

- Staff gather detailed information when children first start which helps them to plan a curriculum. This builds on children's interests and extends their experiences to support their learning and development. Staff use observations and ongoing assessments to track all children's progress and identify any gaps in learning. Referrals for extra support are made swiftly to ensure all children, including those with SEND get the help they need.
- Staff place a high priority on children's communication and language. They babble with babies, use single words and encourage back-and-forth interactions. Staff enthusiastically sing and share stories and teach children new vocabulary. They ask meaningful questions and give children time to think and answer. Children are encouraged to share their ideas and extend their sentences.
- Parents speak highly of the staff and the service the nursery provides. They describe staff as kind and caring and state their children are happy and are making good progress. Parents receive daily updates on their children's routines, interests and activities. However, not all parents are aware of their children's next steps in learning or have ideas shared to help them continue learning at home.
- Staff teach children about the importance of healthy lifestyles. Children eat healthy snacks and meals and learn about including vegetables in their diet.

Staff encourage physical activities, like yoga, to extend core strength alongside extra-curricular activities. Children enjoy the garden space to ride scooters and balance on bucket stilts which aid their coordination. Babies learn to climb the stairs and manoeuvre their bodies to enjoy the slide.

- The leaders and staff work in partnership with a range of professionals to support children's individual needs and learning. Staff support children with SEND exceptionally well. Funding is used to purchase equipment to develop children's skills further. Staff work closely with parents to ensure children are receiving the support they need and follow care plans effectively. The leaders liaise with local schools to support transitions.
- Children learn about a range of cultures and religions as they celebrate different festivals. Staff teach children about similarities and differences and about what makes them unique. Staff promote independence and self-help skills. They regularly count with children to promote their understanding of numbers. However, staff do not always extend other mathematical concepts with younger children to further develop their understanding.
- Leaders support staff well-being effectively and have recently introduced an 'employee of the month' initiative. Robust recruitment procedures are in place and staff engage in frequent supervision sessions. This ensures all staff understand their roles and responsibilities. All staff access training to add to their knowledge and improve their teaching skills. The leaders monitor staff practice, track children's progress and seek views from parents to help them make further improvements.

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:

- ensure parents are aware of their children's next steps for learning and ideas are shared to continue learning at home
- strengthen teaching of early mathematical concepts such as shape, space and measures to ensure the younger children develop an understanding as they play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2717311
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	10388576
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	1 to 4
Total number of places	79
Number of children on roll	90
Name of registered person	Bright Little Stars Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2717312
Telephone number	0208 251 9225
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Monkey Puzzle Purley registered in 2023 and is located in Purley in the London Borough of Croydon. It is open from 7.30am until 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, all year round. The nursery employs 24 members of staff. Of these, 12 staff hold a relevant childcare qualification from level 2 to level 6. The nursery provides government funded childcare and receives specific funding for disadvantaged children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Helen Craig

Inspection activities

- The leaders and inspector carried out a learning walk together to discuss the nursery's curriculum and intention for children's learning.
- The inspector viewed the nursery and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The manager and inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity in pre-school room and discussed the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children and took account of their views.
- The inspector held discussions with staff and leaders about safeguarding and how they evaluate their practice.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation including staff qualifications, paediatric first-aid certificates, insurance and suitability checks.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2025