

Inspection of Busy Bees Day Nursery at Maidstone Hospital

Maidstone Hospital, Hermitage Lane, Maidstone, Kent ME16 9QQ

Inspection date: 11 April 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

Personal development

Good

Leadership and management

Good

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection

Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are greeted at the door by staff who take them to their room. They arrive happily and they settle in quickly. Babies confidently wave to adults as they enter and leave the room. Children who are upset are given the time they need to settle in and are supported to do so by their key person.

Older children confidently talk about the things they are learning. For example, they eagerly share their drawings of the daffodils they have planted. They explain how they planted the bulbs and that they plan to plant seeds. Children are keen to find out more about animals. For example, they ask staff why snow tigers are not orange and black. Children share their experiences and what they know with each other. For example, at mealtimes children sit together and discuss when the Easter Bunny will come and what it might bring.

Children have access to the outdoor area for most of the day. They have plenty of opportunities to practise their physical skills. Older children balance on beams and walk across a rope bridge. Children are supported to do this safely and reminded how to manage risks. Children say, 'Go on, you can do it,' to encourage each other.

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

- The manager has implemented changes since being in post. These are beginning to have a positive impact on the setting. For example, the manager has recently recruited, and is continuing to recruit, new staff. This is having a positive impact on the continuity of care for children.
- The manager has regular meetings with staff to discuss any concerns they may have and to check on their well-being. She carries out formal supervisions to discuss any training needs. Staff report that they feel well supported.
- The manager and staff understand the curriculum intent. Staff know what they want children to learn. They follow children's interests and focus on supporting areas of their development. For example, staff use dinosaurs to support children's language development and provide social opportunities. However, at times, the language staff use is not age-appropriate for the children they are supporting. Staff use sentences that are too long or ask questions that are too advanced for the children to answer.
- Children behave well. Older children know to wash their hands before lunchtime. Children sit patiently and wait for their lunch. Staff remind children of the rules when they forget. For example, younger children are reminded to put their shoes back on when they leave the sandpit.
- Children's independence is promoted well. Older children help to prepare the lunch tables. They give out cups and collect the water jugs for their table. Children pour their own drinks and carry their own cooked lunch back to their

table to eat with their friends. As a result, children are developing the skills required for the next stage in their learning.

- Parents on the whole are happy with the care their children receive. They know who their child's key person is and what their children are learning about. This helps them to support their children's learning at home. Parents report that they feel happier now they are able to come back into the setting after the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. This is having a positive impact as staff are able to provide much more detail to parents at pick-up times.
- Overall, staff understand what their key children like and how best to meet their needs. Staff monitor children's development to ensure they make good progress in their learning. However, this is not always consistent across the whole setting. This has an impact on the extent to which meaningful learning takes place and the progress children make in their development.
- The setting is in receipt of local authority funding, which has been used to make changes to the environments for children. The manager identified the need to improve the environments to ensure they are better equipped to meet all children's needs. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities have also benefited from these changes.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The designated leads for safeguarding understand their role if they have concerns about a child's welfare. They know what the local safeguarding procedures are should they need to report their concerns. Staff understand how to identify if a child is at risk of harm and know the procedure to follow. Staff attend training to update their safeguarding knowledge. They know how to identify if a child is being exposed to extremist views. Staff carry out daily risk assessments to ensure the environment is safe for the children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- improve the way in which staff support children's language development, particularly with younger children
- develop how staff support children to ensure that they consistently promote meaningful learning across the whole setting.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY299059
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10232535
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	112
Number of children on roll	165
Name of registered person	Busy Bees Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900821
Telephone number	01622 226515
Date of previous inspection	17 August 2021

Information about this early years setting

Busy Bees Day Nursery at Maidstone Hospital registered in 2005 and operates in the grounds of Maidstone Hospital, Maidstone, Kent. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, from 7am to 7pm, throughout the year. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 27 members of staff. Of these, 14 hold relevant childcare qualifications, including one with qualified teacher status.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Pippa Clark

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation.
- Parents and grandparents shared their views on the setting with the inspector.

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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