

Inspection of Little Crickets

The Pavilion Sports & Fitness Club, Hurst Lane, EAST MOLESEY, Surrey KT8 9DX

Inspection date: 1 April 2025

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	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children receive nurturing support in a calm, homely environment from staff who know them, their families and home routines well. Children are happy and secure in the care of their key adults. Even the youngest children participate confidently in the routines of the setting. For example, toddlers enjoy 'rhyme time', recognising favourite songs and joining in with actions and smiles while older children excitedly join in with familiar books.

Children happily engage with a balanced and well-considered curriculum with activities themed around annual festivals and events and based on their interests. Staff teach the children independence skills from an early age. Staff consistently develop these skills to prepare the children for moving up through the nursery and on to the next stage in their education. This helps the children develop good self-confidence.

Support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) is effective. Staff liaise with specialist professionals and parents to provide and implement appropriate joined-up support, when required. Staff work with parents to share children's learning and development journey.

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

- Leaders are competent and strong. They have a clear vision for the curriculum and care provided in the nursery. They make effective use of evaluation and feedback to continuously develop and improve the quality of the provision. They use effective assessment to identify areas within the provision where changes are needed for the children to stay on track.
- The curriculum is designed to prepare the children for the next stage in their education. Staff begin teaching children in the baby room to help dress themselves, identify their own cups and self-feed. These skills are developed as the children move up through the nursery, enabling them to operate very independently before they transition to school. For example, pre-school children confidently identify their own cups and pour drinks, as required.
- Overall, teaching is strong and staff effectively capture children's interest. However, some minor inconsistencies exist in the quality of interactions which have not been identified. For example, staff promote speech and language well. They introduce new vocabulary and engage in two-way conversations with the children. However, at times the pace of speech is a little too fast for the children to follow. In addition, staff do not always recognise when it is appropriate to introduce new ideas and extend children's learning during activities. This means that some interactions are more effective than others at fully extending children's learning.

- Sharing of books and love of stories are built into the daily routines so all children benefit from this opportunity as a group. This ignites a love of books and develops children's literacy. There is also a strong focus on developing children's physical activity with daily outdoor or soft-play activities.
- Staff promote children's social skills and sense of belonging very well. For example, during reading time and outdoor play, when the whole nursery come together as a group. This also means that the children become familiar with all the staff across the nursery, which supports their transition between rooms.
- Staff consistently act as good role models for the children. They continuously reinforce good manners and model the behavioural expectations. However, at times the staff give children appropriate instructions to stop certain behaviours without providing an explanation or direction as to why. This does not fully support children to understand how to adjust their behaviour.
- Communication within the nursery is good. Staff have opportunities to exchange ideas for their rooms with the rest of the staff and seek each other's support. Specially trained staff are available to offer advice as and when required.
- Leaders and staff communicate with parents daily and provide regular parents' evenings to discuss the children's progress. Staff liaise with schools to support children transferring to school. More resources are committed to this for children with SEND, who may need further support to manage that process.

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:

- enhance the monitoring of staff to more precisely identify where to focus support to address minor inconsistencies in the quality of teaching
- support staff to provide more consistent guidance for children to understand why certain behavioural expectations are in place.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY419617
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	10392453
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 4
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	33
Name of registered person	Sports Leisure Promotions Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP518175
Telephone number	0208 979 2800
Date of previous inspection	23 August 2019

Information about this early years setting

Little Crickets opened in 2012. The nursery is owned by Sports Leisure Promotions Limited. It operates from rooms within the Pavilion Sports and Fitness Club in East Molesey, Surrey. The nursery opens between 8am and 6pm, five days a week, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding for early education for three- and four-year-old children. The manager holds a qualification at level 3. There are 14 members of staff, 12 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Marlene McEleney

Inspection activities

- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- Staff spoke to the inspector about how they support children with SEND.
- 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 inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to children to find out about their time at the setting.
- The manager, room leaders and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.

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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