

Ellingham House Day Nursery

Ellingham, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 3PJ



Inspection date	12 August 2019
Previous inspection date	29 May 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Everyone involved in this nursery is passionately committed to providing high-quality, inspirational care and learning for children. Staff work exceptionally well together, creating a secure, safe and wonderful learning environment for children.
- Thorough self-evaluation processes enable the managers and staff to reflect, plan and continuously improve the outstanding service they consistently provide.
- Children thrive in this welcoming, nurturing environment where their natural curiosity and exploratory instincts are fostered exceptionally well.
- All children make excellent developmental progress across all areas of learning. Children listen attentively, share ideas and confidently ask questions.
- Staff adapt activities to follow and build on children's individual interests and developing skills. They make regular, accurate assessments of what children know and can do, and investigate and address any concerns that arise.
- Staff turnover is low, enhancing children's sense of security and emotional well-being as they form positive attachments to familiar staff who get to know them very well.
- Parents are highly complimentary of the warm welcome, homely environment and the wealth of activities children undertake. They value the excellent advice and support they receive and how much their children learn and enjoy attending.
- Staff are respected role models. They provide consistent routines and demonstrate courtesy and consideration for the feelings of others. Children learn from their example and behave exceptionally well at all times.
- Children are increasingly independent in their daily activities. For example, irrespective of the weather, children independently dress for outdoor activities in appropriate clothing.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider enhancing the already outstanding environment outdoors to further encourage younger children's physical skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises, reviewed resources and observed a planned activity with the manager.
- The inspector observed the staff and children at play in each room in the nursery and in the extensive grounds.
- The inspector talked to the staff and children about their activities.
- The inspector talked to staff about safeguarding, children's learning and their training opportunities.
- The inspector discussed leadership and management with the manager.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents interviewed on the inspection day.

Inspector

Lynne Lewington

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff demonstrate comprehensive safeguarding knowledge. They undertake thorough risk assessments and staff know what action to take if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. The manager implements rigorous recruitment arrangements and a well-planned induction to provide appropriate support to new staff. Staff benefit from regular supervision and are supported to enhance their skills. This has a positive impact on the quality of the provision as staff use their knowledge to reflect and improve. Managers carefully monitor the impact of teaching and identify priorities. For example, they reviewed and improved aspects of teaching communication and language. Staff have established excellent professional relationships with schools and the speech and language therapist, enabling information to be shared when required to support the well-being of the children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff have great expectations for every child. Their highly skilled interactions encourage children to investigate, learn new words and experiment with the words in their conversations. All staff skilfully encourage children to follow their interests and use their knowledge. They ask children to think how they can work together to solve problems they encounter in their activities. Staff make exceptional use of the outdoor environment to increase children's knowledge of life cycles and provide a multitude of new experiences. For example, children collect eggs from the hens and pick radishes and cucumbers they have grown. They know how to wash and prepare the vegetables, then confidently share their views of how they taste. Children demonstrate their increasing knowledge of the sounds that letters represent and are developing the skills that will help them learn to read. Staff skilfully intertwine mathematical skills into conversations and activities. For example, children talk about weighing items in the mud kitchen and they measure the time it takes to collect a basket of balls.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Singing is frequently heard, encouraging language, recall and expression and creating a very happy atmosphere. Older children remind each other of expected behaviours. They talk about their feelings and the feelings of others. For example, they share how they feel about starting school. Children of all ages benefit from the awesome rural environment of this nursery. They learn to recognise and identify the possible dangers outdoors and appropriate behaviour near the animals. Children's physical skills increase as they use a variety of equipment indoors and out and visit the tree-house classroom. Children know that the eggs and the vegetables they grow and harvest are sometimes used in their meals.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children confidently try new activities. All children, including those with special educational needs, make excellent progress. Toddlers explore tins and boxes; they bang on them, stand in them and show delight as they find items inside them. Babies explore textures, for example, as they squeeze dough through their fingers, pinch and flatten it. Children are exceptionally well prepared for their next stage of learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	110473
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10108410
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	86
Number of children on roll	181
Name of registered person	Ellingham House Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP904320
Date of previous inspection	29 May 2015
Telephone number	01425 473723

Ellingham House Day Nursery registered in 1996. It is privately owned and operates from a converted house in Ellingham, Hampshire. The nursery opens five days a week, all year round. Sessions are from 7.50am until 6pm. There is a team of 37 staff, including support staff. Of these, 25 hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 2, 3, 4 or 5. A qualified teacher is employed and the manager holds a relevant childcare degree.

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