

Inspection of Little Raccoons Day Nursery (Pinner)

Little Raccoons Day Nursery, Uxbridge Road, Pinner HA5 3ZD

Inspection date: 16 July 2024

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 happily arrive at the nursery, excited and eager to start their day and investigate the activities provided. They are greeted by caring and happy staff and leave their parents with ease. Children are confident and good communicators. They are inquisitive; they ask visitors questions and enthusiastically tell them what they like best about their time at nursery. Staff develop good relationships with all children, especially their key children. They encourage children to learn good social skills and gain independence.

Leaders have introduced a strong and ambitious curriculum which is informed by what they already know about the children. The management team is highly attuned to the needs of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). This allows it to work with parents and other professionals to ensure that appropriate support is put in place quickly. The ongoing support that these children receive ensures that they continue to make the best possible progress.

Children relish their time outdoors. They know to wear hats and sun cream. Children have ample space to run, climb and balance on the equipment provided. They negotiate space well as they steer ride-on toys, careful not to bump into their friends. Older children support their younger friends, giving them rides on pedal toys and encouraging them to join in their games. Younger children develop their hand-to-eye coordination pouring between cups and funnels in the water tray.

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

- The manager ensures that the curriculum for communication and language helps every child to make good progress in their language development. Singing and stories can be heard throughout the nursery. This supports children to learn and use new vocabulary. Babies laugh and clap as staff sing to them, and older children finish sentences of well-known stories.
- Staff have a clear understanding of what children should learn in their personal, social and emotional development. They discuss children's emotions with them and talk about how their actions might make others feel. Younger children have pictures on the walls to support them to identify their feelings. This helps children to understand and communicate their emotions.
- Children have opportunities to develop their social skills. Children show respect for one another and build each other's confidence and self-esteem, praising and encouraging one another, saying 'you can do it' and 'well done'. Developing important social skills such as these helps children to form friendships.
- Behaviour is generally good. However, there is not always a consistent message from all staff regarding expectations and behaviour management. This can lead to confusion for the children and, on occasion, children's behaviour can then

escalate.

- Staff support children to make good progress in their mathematical development. They integrate counting into games throughout the day. For example, as children play, they count their jumps. Staff use mathematical language as they play with children. They discuss how containers are 'half full' or 'half empty'. This supports children to begin to learn early mathematical concepts.
- Children show a positive attitude to doing things for themselves and develop their independence and sense of responsibility successfully. For example, toddlers clear their own plates and older children also self-serve their food. This helps children to prepare for the next stage of their learning.
- Staff take the time to get to know their key children well. Activities are planned to ensure the children's enjoyment and development. As such, children want to engage in the activities and show a good attitude to learning.
- Parent partnerships are strong. Parents are invited in to support learning about different festivals. This builds relationships between the nursery and families and supports the children to learn about and respect other cultures, preparing them for life in modern Britain. Family events, such as graduation and sports day, are scheduled at times when the most parents are able to attend to share in the children's achievements.
- The manager is passionate about ensuring that every child is supported to grow and develop. She supports staff to improve their practice well. Staff comment that they feel valued and well supported; they enjoy working at the nursery. The manager makes sure that she is working with the children for the majority of time, and uses this as a way to model good practice and offer regular feedback to staff. In addition, staff attend regular training. The manager identifies this based on discussion with staff and the needs of the children. This leads to good outcomes for children.

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:

- improve the organisation and preparation of mealtimes and some group times to ensure that all children are engaged at these times
- ensure that all staff implement consistent behaviour management procedures so that all children gain clear and consistent messages about what is expected of them.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY547285
Local authority	Harrow
Inspection number	10356132
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	0 to 4
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	49
Name of registered person	Little Raccoons Day Nursery (Pinner) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP547284
Telephone number	0203 150 0068
Date of previous inspection	17 May 2022

Information about this early years setting

Little Raccoons Day Nursery (Pinner) registered in 2017. It operates from a purpose-built building in Pinner, in the London Borough of Harrow. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6.30pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The provider is in receipt of funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Michaela Hipwell

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 inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- 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.
- Children told the inspector about their friends and what they like to do when they are at the nursery.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The special educational needs coordinator spoke to the inspector about how they support children with SEND.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation during a group activity.
- Parents shared their views of the nursery with the inspector.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.

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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