

Rainbow House (Herts) Ltd



4 Meads Lane, Wheathampstead, ST. ALBANS, Hertfordshire AL4 8BW

Inspection date	17 December 2018
Previous inspection date	13 July 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children are extremely engaged in their play. Staff ask children a range of questions which helps to support their learning effectively. They know the children in their care well.
- Children are very well settled at the nursery. They form strong bonds with the staff and are aware of whom to turn to for help and support when they need it. Babies have their needs met well. Older children grow in confidence during their time at the nursery.
- Staff are well supported by the manager at the nursery. They make the most of strong opportunities to develop their professional knowledge further. The manager recognises their individual strengths and interests and uses these effectively. Staff work well together as a team.
- Children are very independent at the nursery. They develop the skills that they need to move on to the next stage in their learning. They complete tasks confidently and help the staff. For instance, older children serve themselves at mealtimes and clear their plates when they have finished eating.
- Staff do not always offer children enough activities based on their interests to allow them to extend their learning even further.
- Staff do not consistently use the tracking of children's progress effectively to identify swiftly any gaps in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the planning of activities to provide children with learning opportunities that are relevant to their interests so that they can extend their learning even further
- enhance the tracking systems in place to monitor accurately the progress children make and support them to close any gaps in their learning rapidly.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises with the manager and deputy manager.
- The inspector observed a planned activity jointly with the manager and deputy manager. They discussed the impact of the teaching on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including policies, staff suitability documents and children's learning records.
- The inspector spoke to parents and carers of children who attend the nursery. She also looked at emails from parents and took all of their views into consideration.

Inspector

Jennifer Hardy

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a strong understanding of the processes to follow if they have concerns about children. They meet regularly with the manager to discuss their practice. The highly reflective staff work together with the manager to identify areas that can be improved at the nursery. Children transition well from the nursery to other settings. Staff meet with other professionals to share information to support children's continuity of care. Individual children have their needs met highly effectively. Staff work with other agencies and parents to identify children who need additional support and help them to make good levels of progress. Parents are well informed about how well their children are learning. They work in partnership with staff to identify children's initial starting points. Staff share ideas with them to help them to support their children's learning further at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children's learning positively. They support their language development effectively. For instance, they talk to them about the games they play, modelling correct and appropriate language. Staff develop children's interest in books from a young age. For example, they read books to babies and encourage them to explore the pages using all of their senses. Staff provide children with a wide range of resources to enjoy. Resources are age appropriate and at suitable levels for the children to access independently. Older children learn to use tools appropriately for tasks. They are supported well to develop their writing skills. They confidently practise writing their names on the work they produce.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff speak kindly to the children. They encourage younger children to develop their manners. Children develop their social skills well. For instance, they enjoy sitting together to eat their snack. Staff positively model to them how to take turns as they talk to each other. They support children to understand the importance of positive hygiene routines. For example, they sing songs about dental hygiene to the children while they brush their teeth. Children are visited at the nursery by members of the local community, such as police officers and members of the fire service. This helps them to develop an understanding of people who serve the local community.

Outcomes for children are good

Older children use their imaginations well. For instance, they pretend to make Christmas cakes with the play dough. They learn to use technology appropriately. For example, they move the mouse and click the buttons accurately while they play on the computer. They practise their counting skills as they play. Older children recognise numbers that they see and count confidently. Babies develop their muscles as they play. They use walkers to support their emerging walking skills. Children learn about the importance of safety. They hold on as they carefully climb up the ramp on the play equipment outside. All children make good progress from their starting points.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY481793
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10076283
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	65
Number of children on roll	64
Name of registered person	Rainbow House (Herts) Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP534003
Date of previous inspection	13 July 2016
Telephone number	01582 831 991

Rainbow House (Herts) Ltd registered in 2015 and is located in St Albans, Hertfordshire. The nursery employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including two who hold qualifications at level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks per year, except for bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.45am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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