

Sunflowers Day Nursery

Sunflower Day Nursery, 82 High Street, Crediton, Devon, EX17 3LA



Inspection date

11 November 2015

Previous inspection date

9 June 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the 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

- The quality of teaching across the nursery is outstanding. Staff provide rich, varied and imaginative experiences based on children's interests, inside and outdoors. Consequently, all children are highly motivated, eager to explore and develop a real thirst for learning.
- Managers have an excellent understanding of the curriculum and regularly check children's progress. They quickly identify any gaps in learning and development so staff can access appropriate support to meet individual children's needs.
- The key-person system is exceptionally good. All staff are highly skilled and sensitive in helping children form secure emotional attachments. This means staff meet children's individual needs extremely well, and children's confidence and emotional well-being are effectively supported.
- The impressive range of accessible resources offers a highly stimulating and rich environment. Children show an eagerness to learn as they investigate, solve problems, explore and lead their own learning. However, some resources, such as those for cooking, are sometimes too big for children to use effectively.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent. They contribute to the assessments of children's starting points and staff keep them very well informed of their child's progress. This shared approach supports children's learning, development and well-being, in their own home and in the nursery.
- Leadership is inspirational. The management team is effective in its commitment to continuously improve the already outstanding nursery. Staff demonstrate their drive towards achieving excellence in all areas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the size of equipment used in activities so children can always use them effectively and independently.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children, inside and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with staff, the manager and provider at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation including children's learning records, self-evaluation, policies and staff qualification certificates.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to some parents and reviewed their written comments on questionnaires to gain their views.

Inspector

Katherine Lamb

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Leaders and managers have an excellent view of the nursery's strengths and weaknesses because they regularly evaluate practice and check children's progress. Staff reflect on the impact of their practice on children's learning and development, through rigorous performance management. Staff qualifications and ongoing professional development have a positive impact on the quality of the practice, and they implement new learning quickly; for example, using shorter sentences to support babies' speech development. Safeguarding is effective. All staff attend regular safeguarding training and have an exceptional knowledge of the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child in their care. The nursery has superb partnerships with other agencies, other settings and with parents. This ensures that all involved meet children's needs exceedingly well.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff use their superior knowledge of how children learn, and their expertise in teaching, to provide an outstanding range of learning opportunities based on children's interests. Older children are given time to think and negotiate which helps them to explore their own ideas. Younger children enjoy exploratory play to develop their sensory development. Staff support children's developing communication and language skills consistently. Older children apply their learning well; for example, as they act out stories using puppets. Children have a wide range of experiences that promote understanding of their community. For example, children and staff learn basic words and songs in the different home languages of children attending the nursery. Planning and assessments are precise, sharply focused on each child's needs, and effectively shared with all staff and parents, so every child makes rapid progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children arrive enthusiastically, ready to play and learn. They show exceptional respect, consideration and thoughtfulness to their friends. Babies benefit from the very attentive care that staff provide. Each child gets expertly tailored care. Children have an excellent knowledge of how to keep themselves safe; for example, walking 'nicely' when going on nature walks and listening to staff. Staff support children effectively to develop their independence and self-care skills, appropriate to their age and stage of development.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children, including those who have special educational needs and speak English as an additional language, make substantial and sustained progress in relation to their starting points. They develop the skills they will need for the next steps in their learning, including school, and they are confident and effective learners.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY334284
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	987836
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	73
Number of children on roll	87
Name of provider	Sunflowers Day Nursery LLP
Date of previous inspection	9 June 2010
Telephone number	01363 777020

Sunflowers Day Nursery registered in 2001 and re-registered under the present ownership in 2006. It is located near the centre of Crediton, in Devon. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm. There are 17 staff who work with the children, 14 of whom hold a level 3 qualification or above in early years. The nursery also employs a cook and a cleaner. The nursery is in receipt of funding for children aged two, three and four years old.

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