

Inspection of Play2day Nurseries (Ipswich)

Play 2 Day, Kidz Kingdom, Gloster Road, Martlesham Heath, Ipswich, Suffolk IP5 3RJ

Inspection date: 5 April 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children jump up and down with excitement as their friends arrive at this welcoming setting. Staff provide reassuring cuddles and comfort to children who have recently started to attend. This helps children to feel safe and secure. Children are confident and freely explore their surroundings. Toddlers climb up the crawling bridge and learn to take risks as they travel down the ramp. Older children delight as staff push them on the hammock swing in the garden. Others enjoy transporting water around the garden and play in the mud kitchen.

Children are familiar with the routines of the day. They know what is expected of them and respond well. Children are motivated to learn as they join in with a good range of activities offered. Toddlers enjoy splashing in the water tray with their key person. Older children concentrate and learn mathematical concepts as they fill and empty containers of water. They develop fine motor skills and coordination as they squeeze and release the bulbs of pipettes, moving water in and out of the bowls. Staff model taking turns in conversation and provide a narrative as children play. Children demonstrate a growing vocabulary as they tell staff their container is 'ginormous'.

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

- Managers are aware of the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on children's development. They have focused on supporting children's communication and language, as well as their personal, social and emotional development. They have provided a quiet area where children can relax and look at books about emotions. In addition, staff have provided a basket of fidget toys to support children's self-regulation. As a result, children behave well and are self-assured.
- Staff know the children well. They know where children are in their learning and provide a curriculum that builds on what they already know, to support their continuing progress. All children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, make good progress in their learning from their individual starting points and are well prepared for the next stage in their learning.
- Children's personal needs are met effectively. During mealtimes, children learn to develop their self-care and independence skills. At breakfast, toddlers independently choose from a selection of cereals. They successfully use small jugs to pour their milk. Older children learn to cut their own snacks and pour their drinks. Staff patiently settle babies to sleep, gently stroking their backs. They regularly monitor sleeping children to ensure that they are safe. Toddlers later replicate this routine in their role play as they sing lullabies to their sleeping dolls.
- Staff observe children to decide what they want children to learn. They plan

purposeful activities based on the children's interests. As a result, children readily join in with what is on offer. On occasions, some group activities are not well planned and children have to wait for extended periods for their turn. For example, when they make play dough, staff use one bowl that is passed around the table and children become restless or lose interest in the activity.

- Staff build effective partnerships with parents. Parents report that they feel staff 'really listen' to them. They feel well informed of their children's progress and what they need to learn next as staff readily share information with them. This helps to maintain continuity of care and learning. Parents comment on the progress their children have made since starting the nursery, particularly with their communication and language skills.
- Managers complete detailed risk assessments to ensure the safety of the children. However, they do not always share these with staff effectively to make sure staff have the knowledge they need to identify possible hazards. Nevertheless, the management team is committed to strengthening staff training to ensure they know how to swiftly identify potential hazards and act on these.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Effective recruitment procedures are in place to ensure that those working with children are safe to do so. All staff receive safeguarding training and the managers provide quizzes to test their knowledge of wider safeguarding issues. There are identified safeguarding leads, to help ensure that any concerns are reported in a timely and appropriate way. Staff have a good knowledge of their roles and responsibilities in keeping children safe. They know how to identify children that may be at risk of harm, extreme views and beliefs. There is an effective whistle-blowing procedure to ensure that staff know how to report concerns about colleagues.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide further guidance for staff to manage group activities more effectively, to ensure children can remain fully engaged
- build on the programme of staff training, to help staff understand the setting's risk assessments and how to identify possible hazards.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2526809
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	10215064
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	68
Number of children on roll	52
Name of registered person	Play2day Nurseries Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2526808
Telephone number	01473 611333
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Play2day Nurseries (Ipswich) registered in 2019 and is situated in Martlesham Heath, Suffolk. It employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, 12 are qualified at level 2 or above and one holds qualified teacher status. The setting opens from Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Shelly McDougall

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The managers joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want the children to learn.
- 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 viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual/registered individual about the leadership and management of the setting.
- The inspector carried out joint observations of group activities with one of the managers.
- The inspector spoke to parents and grandparents during the inspection and took account of their views.

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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