

Inspection of Bright Horizons Shortlands Day Nursery and Preschool

84 Martins Road, Shortlands BR2 0EF

Inspection date: 14 September 2022

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 are happy and settled at the nursery. The managers provide supportive systems to help new children settle quickly. This helps children feel secure. From the time they arrive, children confidently move around the different areas of the setting and direct their own play. Managers and staff have high expectations for all children. From a young age, children are well behaved and encouraged to be independent. Children add resources to their activities and explore their ideas. For instance, older children add a range of ingredients to cornflour as they attempt to re-create the texture of the moon. Younger children use magnifying glasses to search for toy insects among the real flowers, soil and foam. They show great delight when they count the eight legs on the bug they find. All children make good progress, including those who receive additional funding and those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Staff provide opportunities for children to feel listened to. This builds on children's self-esteem and helps them feel valued. This is apparent when children are encouraged in small groups to share ideas about what they would like to do during the day. They later reflect back and evaluate how the day is going.

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

- Managers plan an ambitious curriculum. This gives children a wealth of experiences. Staff know children well and regularly observe and plan activities following children's interests. Overall, teaching is good. However, during some activities staff do not carefully consider opportunities to extend children's vocabulary. This would support children's communication and language skills to develop their learning even further.
- Children enjoy healthy meals and snacks. Their individual dietary requirements are organised well to ensure that all staff are aware of children's needs. Children are encouraged to have a 'can-do' attitude. For instance, babies serve themselves at lunchtime. Older children have rolling mealtimes. Overall, the management changes to the environment are well organised. However, some routines, such as lunchtime, do not meet the needs of all children effectively. For instance, children's waiting times for meals can cause some children to become upset or discontent.
- Parents appreciate the wide range of activities. They receive regular updates and information from the online system. Staff discuss with parents what children are learning and how they can support children at home. Partnership with parents is good. Managers identify gaps in children's learning and work closely with parents and professionals. This supports all children, including those with SEND to develop skills for future learning.
- Staff plan a stimulating curriculum that considers children's ages and stages of development. For instance, older children discuss how to make the water station

work. They collaborate with their friends to transport water from different parts of the garden. Children show great delight with their achievements. They are patient and are developing a good understanding of cause and effect.

- Children are caring and behave well. Managers create environments where children can explore their emotions and feelings in age-appropriate ways. For instance, babies have images of basic emotions and large mirrors to see themselves in. Older children match photographs of themselves and their friends to different emotions. Staff encourage children to explore feelings such as 'calm' and 'peaceful.' They introduce songs to extend children's learning, such as, 'If you're happy and you know it'. This helps build on their resilience skills.
- Managers have effective systems in place when recruiting new staff. They evaluate their practice, carry out staff observations and work closely with staff to continually raise the quality of the provision. For example, they have developed the garden in the baby area further to provide more opportunities for children to learn through physical play.
- Staff support children to develop their physical skills. Children have lots of opportunities to explore the natural environment during outdoor play. For instance, babies enjoy using different tools in the water. Children grow herbs, plants and tomatoes. They pick and eat their produce. Children are developing a good understanding of life cycles.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers and staff have a good understanding of the signs and symptoms which may indicate that children are at risk of harm. This includes how to identify possible indicators that families are exposed to extreme views and behaviours. Staff have a clear understanding of who to contact if they have concerns about children's welfare. They are familiar with the whistle-blowing policy and procedures for reporting allegations. The management team ensures that staff keep their safeguarding knowledge up to date. For instance, staff complete training and discuss safeguarding issues in staff meetings.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- enhance staff understanding and practice of how to help children develop a wide and varied vocabulary
- support children more effectively during mealtime routines to enable all children to fully benefit from the learning opportunities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY332042
Local authority	Bromley
Inspection number	10235009
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	72
Number of children on roll	79
Name of registered person	Bright Horizons Family Solutions Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901358
Telephone number	0203 780 3066
Date of previous inspection	18 October 2016

Information about this early years setting

Bright Horizons Shortlands Day Nursery and Preschool registered in 1996. The nursery is housed in a converted chapel in the London Borough of Bromley. The nursery opens each weekday, throughout the year, from 7.30am until 6.30pm, closing for one week at Christmas. The nursery employs 20 staff, 15 of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at either level 2 or level 3, one who holds qualified teacher status and one who holds a level 5 qualification. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Angela Colman

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 inspector observed the quality of teaching, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and checked the evidence of staff training and suitability.
- The inspector spoke to staff, parents and children at appropriate points in the inspection and considered their views.
- The manager and inspector conducted joint observations on teaching together and evaluated it.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk together. They discussed the curriculum and what it is that the manager wants children to learn.

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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