

Inspection of Flying Start

Scout Association, 193 Walton Road, WEST MOLESEY, Surrey KT8 2DY

Inspection date: 7 September 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 develop high levels of confidence. Children who are returning this term happily engage with each other in their choice of activities, both indoors and outdoors. New children to the setting are reassured, nurtured and engaged with through cuddles, soft voices and quiet activities. This helps them to feel secure in their new play environment during free-play sessions. Children have positive attitudes towards their ongoing learning.

Children learn to be independent in their play and in self-help skills. They use toilets independently, confidently asking for help when it is required. They decide where to play and which activities to engage in. They are given time to complete their play to their own satisfaction. They learn to put on coats and choose what to have at snack time, using these skills to prepare themselves in readiness for school.

Children communicate confidently through spoken word, gestures, expressions, pictorial aid and signing. Staff develop this confidence further by working closely with other speech and language specialists to introduce new strategies for all children. They use interactive toys to encourage speech and the introduction of new and more complex vocabulary.

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

- Children are valued for their individuality. Staff provide a highly inclusive environment. They take into consideration the individual care and learning needs of all children. Children's heritage, home language and culture are celebrated through activities, visits from parents and by reflecting on home life through everyday events.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) receive a personal approach to their particular needs. Staff work tirelessly with parents and other professionals to promote small steps in their children's development. Staff use sensitive and subtle teaching methods, such as engaging them with other children through their play. Children with SEND are making high levels of progress to close gaps in their development.
- Children quickly develop safe and secure attachments with familiar staff, seeking them out when they feel unsettled. In the main, staff engage with children well. They interact effectively during adult-led activities, using resources for a purpose, such as letters and sounds associated with children's names and familiar objects. Staff join in with children's choice of what and where to play, such as in the role-play areas. However, at times, staff do not consistently and spontaneously change their practice to engage with younger children to fully promote their emotional well-being, particularly in group activities, and to enrich

more established children's learning further.

- Children develop close relationships with their peers. They learn to cooperate and negotiate through sensitive approaches from staff to positively support children's behaviour. Children feel proud of their achievements, developing high levels of self-esteem. For example, staff identify children who have listened, concentrated and played harmoniously with their friends by awarding them the 'gold cushion'. Children show their pride by hugging the cushion with a big smile on their face.
- Children have multiple opportunities to take part in sensory activities. For example, children have opportunities to play in the sensory garden, experimenting with the smells, sights, sounds and touch of different natural materials. Children choose to play with resources that test their knowledge of senses that are linked to their interests. For example, staff introduce bicarbonate of soda and vinegar to the dinosaur activity. Children listen to the sound it makes when the two are mixed together, watch the bubbles appear and smell the mixture, resulting in their expressions of awe and wonder.
- The whole staff team show a great enthusiasm to improve. They work cohesively to help reflect on their teaching practice for all children. They regularly attend training and assess the best way to implement these new practices successfully. They work with a wealth of other professionals, such as health visitors, teachers, and other early years settings, to promote a continuous journey in children's learning.
- Parents make very positive comments about the care and attention to learning that their children receive. They develop close professional relationships with staff through different communication methods. Parents feel totally included in their child's ongoing development, gaining support as to how to promote the next steps of their children's learning at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a robust knowledge of how to protect children from harm. They have a clear understanding of the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child in their care. All staff attend regular training to update their knowledge of all safeguarding issues and understand the signs and symptoms of child abuse. Children play in a safe and secure environment that is regularly assessed according to the children that are attending the setting. Children learn to keep themselves safe through clear explanations from the staff and by learning their own physical capabilities when using large equipment. For example, children listen carefully to how to jump off the steps safely and decide how high they want to climb before jumping off.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- enhance staff's knowledge of using spontaneous-play opportunities to provide a more consistent approach to promoting more-established children's communication and younger children's emotional wellbeing, particularly in group activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2543482
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	10215442
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	41
Name of registered person	Maynard, Sarah
Registered person unique reference number	2543481
Telephone number	07976 041790
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Flying Start Pre-School registered in 2019. It operates from the scout hall in West Molesey, Surrey. In total, eight staff work with the children, all of whom hold relevant early years qualifications. The pre-school accepts funding for the free provision of education for children aged two, three and four years. It is open each weekday, during term time only, from 9am to 2pm. The owner/manager is a qualified early years teacher.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Claire Parnell

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 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 setting.
- 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 inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- 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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