

Little Green Rascals Children's Organic Day Nursery

Elvington Lane, YORK YO19 5LT



Inspection date	8 April 2019
Previous inspection date	19 January 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

- Leaders, managers and staff show very high expectations of themselves and children in their care. They reflect continuously on their practice and identify highly focused improvements.
- Managers aspire to maintain excellent standards in teaching and learning. They provide a wealth of professional development methods that help to enhance staff's skills to the highest level.
- Partnerships with parents are highly effective. For example, staff provide exciting home-learning resources for all ages, including babies. Parents contribute to assessments and are extremely well informed about their children's experiences and ongoing progress.
- Staff superbly manage children's moves between rooms within the nursery and on to school. This strongly supports children's positive emotional well-being.
- Staff swiftly identify and address any gaps in children's development. They work very closely with other professionals to provide excellent support. All children make the very best possible progress in their learning.
- The magnificent learning environment significantly enhances children's delight in learning and promotes their sense of fun. Staff provide wonderful levels of challenge.
- Children benefit from exciting outings, including regular trips to forest school and other places of interest, that greatly enrich their understanding of the wider world.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary. They show significant levels of confidence and respond well to plentiful praise and encouragement from staff. Children have amazingly strong attachments to staff, who support the whole family highly effectively.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to implement and evaluate innovative strategies that engage all parents actively from the start in their children's learning and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a tour of the premises with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff, children and parents at appropriate times throughout the inspection and took their views into account.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact of this on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the provider and managers. She reviewed documentation, including evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff.

Inspector

Cathryn Clarricoates

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The manager regularly reinforces staff's secure knowledge of child protection issues, for example through spontaneous verbal quizzes. The implementation of risk assessments is rigorous. Managers nurture staff and provide dedicated leadership. Staff are fully involved in developing magnificent action plans that are informed by parents and children. The manager is currently focusing on extending the already outstanding strategies that support the exchange of information with parents. The high level of staff qualifications has a significant impact on the quality of the provision. The manager monitors staff practice thoroughly, for instance through regular peer observations. Staff carry out targeted research, including using the extensive learning library on site. Their findings and examples of inspirational activities for children are celebrated, such as through staff meetings.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff know the needs and interests of children extremely well. They skilfully question children to help to extend their language and creative thinking. Children frequently access the stimulating outdoor environment that is designed to follow their preferred learning styles wonderfully well. They learn about the world around them as they join bug hunts and help to grow and harvest vegetables for their meals. Children develop their impressive physical skills while they enjoy vigorous exercise, such as during sports sessions. Indoors, children investigate making play dough, using a freely accessible 'factory'. They count and measure as they use dispensers for flour, choose different colours of water and use tools to produce the mixture and work out how to create the right consistency. Young children's imaginative play is enhanced with real objects, such as fruit and vegetables. Babies explore a wealth of materials, for instance oats, rice, sand, water and dough, enabling them to use all of their senses.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff inspire families to support children's communication and language skills and other essential skills in readiness for their future learning. For example, they provide parents with a broad range of leaflets, workshops and healthy recipes. Parents receive excellent guidance about local community courses. Children of all ages learn to keep themselves safe during risky activities. An example of this is when they explain why they must stay behind a chalked line when an open fire is lit outdoors to heat hot chocolate for them to drink. The nursery cook uses organic food to provide highly nutritious meals and snacks. Children develop an excellent understanding of the importance of a healthy diet, hygiene procedures and lifestyle.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children show a great love of books, songs and music. They demonstrate superb collaboration in their play, form firm friendships and develop excellent social skills. Older children frequently practise their early mathematical skills, including shape recognition, in preparation for their move to school. They develop very good early writing skills as they write shopping lists during role play. Children of all ages show exceptionally high levels of independence, including serving their food at mealtimes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY395134
Local authority	York
Inspection number	10071449
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	0 - 4
Total number of places	114
Number of children on roll	215
Name of registered person	Little Green Rascals Organic Day Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP529046
Date of previous inspection	19 January 2015
Telephone number	01904 607 959

Little Green Rascals Children's Organic Day Nursery registered in 2009 and is privately owned and managed. The nursery opens five days each week from 7.30am until 6.30pm all year round, except for bank holidays and a week at Christmas. The nursery employs 31 members of childcare staff who work directly with the children. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including two with early years professional status and three staff with qualified teacher status. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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