

Melton Day Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number EY372663
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Inspector Deirdra Keating

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Type of setting Childcare on non-domestic premises

Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

Description of the setting

Melton Day Nursery is privately owned and managed. It opened in 2008 and operates from a converted maternity hospital in Melton, Suffolk. The entrance is accessible via a low step. A secure enclosed outdoor area is used for outdoor play activities. A maximum of 45 children aged from birth to five years may attend the setting at any one time. The group is open five days a week from 08:00 to 18:00 for 51 weeks a year.

There are currently 75 Children attending who are within the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) years. They live in the local area and some children attend the nursery unit of the local primary school. The setting also offers care to children aged over 0 years to 5 years. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the compulsory childcare register and voluntary childcare registers.

There are 17 members of staff, of which 15 hold other appropriate early years qualifications, one has Qualified Teacher Status and four are working towards further qualifications.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children are inclusively welcomed and their needs are met very well in the Early Years Foundation Stage. Staff are well qualified, suitable and written procedures ensure that children's needs are met through the sharing of information with parents. However, some of the procedures require close monitoring to ensure they work effectively in practice. The learning environment is very stimulating with a broad range of resources and activities from which children can actively learn and progress. The staff have created an environment that is safe and welcoming and they generally support children's learning well. The provider is very aware of the strengths of the setting and works extremely hard on areas that require improvement to enhance the experiences of the children who attend the nursery.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- provide enough space for children who wish to relax, play quietly or sleep (this refers to the toddler room)
- ensure that the accident record includes written confirmation that parents have been informed of any accident or injury sustained by the child and any first aid treatment given
- provide more interventions in child-initiated play to ensure children continue to be challenged and motivated during activities of their choice.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The management of the Early Years Foundation Stage is promoted by the maintenance of policies, procedures and effective record systems. Children are protected from harm by a robust recruitment system and staff who have good knowledge of safeguarding procedures. The provider has robust systems in place to monitor the provision and strives for continuous improvement.

Recommendations raised at the last inspection have been acted upon and many changes to the layout, equipment and the landscaping of the outdoor area have made significant improvements to the provision, giving children many more exciting and stimulating opportunities. The provider has a strong commitment to developing the skills and knowledge of all the staff and fosters their professional development extremely well. Children's welfare is fostered and their safety is promoted through the introduction of risk assessments in line with the EYFS requirements. Although, these have been very recently introduced and with the improvements made to the outdoor area will require close monitoring.

The provision has developed extremely good professional relationships with parents and carers. They value the skills and knowledge of the parents using the information to help each child reach their full potential. Parents' views are sought and used very effectively in practice, they can choose the key person from the staff team with their child. Children's records are proactively shared and regularly go home for parental comments; these are also collected on the board for key person staff to inform daily activities and ensure that children are really excited and stimulated by the resources and activities. The staff tailor routines to meet families' needs, communication systems are creatively developed to ensure that an inclusive service is provided to all families. Consequently, parents and carers speak very highly of the provision and are extremely satisfied with the quality of the provision and significant improvements that continue to be made. The setting has good links with other local provisions and supports children well who attend some sessions at the local school.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are provided with many opportunities to help them make good progress across all areas of learning and development. The equipment outside is particularly eye catching and colourful encouraging children's exploratory play and active learning. Planning provides a range of practical and enjoyable experiences that are securely based on what children can do and takes account of their recent interests. Staff have good systems in place for gathering information from different sources, including parents, to build on children's experiences and develop their skills. Children enjoy their experiences of playing together with the appealing resources as they initiate their own play, however, staff do not always use challenging methods or ask children to think critically during activities of the children's choice. Children with additional needs are given good support using the area SENCo and clear targets are developed closely with parents to ensure that all children make progress. One to one support is provided by staff who know children and enable them to achieve well. The environment is colourful and accessible to every child. Tactile resources are stored at a low-level and presented well to babies so they can explore independently giving them confidence and motivation to learn. A spacious all

weather surfaced area provides an extension to all the rooms. This houses a broad range of exciting exploratory and tactile resources and has a themed garden area where natural resources are used to represent a well known story. Children work in groups and show high levels of involvement as they enjoy these real experiences using natural materials. They confidently transport water from a container by watering can to the sand tray and use rakes and trowels in the vegetable patch.

Children show a good understanding of group rules as they come together for circle time. They treat one another with respect and take turns as staff help them link letters to sounds using colourful everyday items. Children are starting to learn about other parts of the world as staff use a globe and ask children to choose animals which are linked by discussion to their natural habitats. The environment is safe and welcoming with good systems in place to ensure children are safe and comfortable. Children and young babies rest and sleep in comfortable designated areas, however, the space provided in the toddler room is not adequate and sleep times can be disruptive. Children are encouraged to play safely by staff who use positive statements about moving safely around the nursery. Staff are all trained in first aid and record minor injuries in an accident record book, however, these are not always consistently by parents on collection.

Children are learning all about being healthy, they enjoy healthy nutritious snacks and compare them with sugary foods to give them a clear understanding, by providing a hands-on experience to actively take part in. The children can choose to play outside at any time and many children spend the majority of their time outside in the exciting and spacious well resourced garden. A wide range of climbing equipment and wheeled toys enable children to run around and acquire many new skills and get exercise in the fresh air. Children and their families are very warmly welcomed into the nursery promoting an inclusive environment where care is always taken to adapt routines and procedures accordingly to need. Good procedures tailored towards individual needs enable children to settle in well. Adults provide good continuity of care as children go through transitional stages and settle into different rooms. They are warm caring and tactile providing reassurance and developing trusting relationships with children. Consequently, children are happy and content which enables them to achieve well in relation to their capabilities and starting points.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

Overall effectiveness

How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	Good
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	Good
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	Outstanding

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	Good
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	Good
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	Outstanding
How well are children safeguarded?	Good

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	Good
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	Good
How well are children helped to stay safe?	Good
How well are children helped to be healthy?	Good
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	Good
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	Good
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	Good

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are: Met

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met

Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

Detail of the complaint/s

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration or the last inspection.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.