

The Children's House

Station Road, Stallingborough, Grimsby, North East Lincolnshire, DN41 8AJ



Inspection date	9 February 2015
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The quality of teaching across the nursery is outstanding. Staff provide an exciting range of high-quality learning experiences for children. As a result, children are highly motivated, eager to explore and develop a curiosity for learning.
- Children are making extremely good progress. Pre-school children demonstrate very mature attitudes to self-learning, independence and problem solving.
- The children are actively encouraged to make their own decisions, lead their own play and voice their opinions. Therefore, they have a real ownership of their own learning.
- Children form exceptional relationships with the staff who care for them each day. This means children's individual needs are always met extremely well and children form strong attachments with staff.
- Excellent partnerships between parents and the nursery staff ensure that parents are well informed about their child's developmental progress.
- The management team are passionate about ensuring children have an excellent start to their education. They are highly effective in driving improvement.
- Staff are highly qualified and the management team recognises the positive impact of staff's continued professional development on the children's education.
- Thorough analysis of children's assessment information means that any potential learning needs are recognised and met quickly.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to evaluate and adapt the provision, in order to enrich the experiences of the young babies now attending.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning, both inside and out.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and Early Years Professional. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation.

Inspector

Sharon Waterfall

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

Staff use their excellent teaching practices to provide a range of outstanding activities that engage and challenge children's learning. Children initiate many of the activities themselves and are then skilfully supported by staff. Babies acquire key skills to support their development, such as their personal and social development through the secure attachments made with staff. Pre-school children's interest in how things work is enhanced as they test how breakfast cereals can be charged with static electricity. Toddlers make dragons for Chinese New Year by painting with their feet. The children remain constantly focused and engaged as they experiment and play for prolonged and uninterrupted periods of time. They are skilled at trial and error, problem solving and discussing what they are doing, which are essential skills for future learning. Children are therefore, well prepared for moving to the next age group or starting school. Staff work closely with parents and other professionals to ensure all children's learning needs are met. Assessment is sharply focused on how to develop children's next steps in learning and ensures they make excellent progress.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Children's emotional well-being is given the utmost priority by a truly caring staff team. Even the youngest babies settle quickly as staff support them extremely well and are attentive to their every need. Staffing arrangements are consistent so children are very familiar with the staff and readily seek them out for comfort when needed. Children are extremely independent and confident decision makers, as they are actively involved in making their own choices throughout the day. Staff have high expectations for children's behaviour, particularly in respecting their peers and the resources they use. In response, children behave in an exemplary manner. They take turns, share and make strong connections with the other children. Children's health, safety and physical well-being are strongly fostered as staff implement a range of effective policies and safe working practices. Managers and staff have an excellent understanding of their responsibilities to safeguard children.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

The management and staff team are committed to providing an excellent quality of care and education to the children. The management team are proactive and meet challenges and barriers with a positive attitude. Extremely effective partnerships are in place with a wide range of outside agencies, local schools and education providers. Robust recruitment processes, regular supervision and checking of staff performance lead to a high level of quality care and education throughout the nursery. The already well-qualified staff attend constant training to enhance the educational programme. Incisive self-evaluation is embedded in practice and identifies how continual improvements are being made. For example, leaders have correctly recognised the need to further adapt the resources, environment and equipment to further enrich younger babies' experiences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	205540
Local authority	North East Lincolnshire
Inspection number	854393
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	121
Number of children on roll	106
Name of provider	Equal Grade Ltd
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01472 886000

The Children's House was registered in 2000. The nursery employs 26 members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above, including five graduates and one with Early Years Professional status. Eight staff hold a Montessori qualification as the nursery prescribes to the Montessori educational philosophy. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, except for a week at Christmas. Sessions are from 7am until 6.30pm. An after school facility is provided for local schools. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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