

# Maltings Day Nursery, The

Ship Lane, Ely, Cambs, CB7 4BB



## Inspection date

24 April 2015

Previous inspection date

14 May 2009

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is outstanding

- The management team are inspirational. They continually reflect on practice and seek innovative ways to improve outcomes for all children in their care. This means children benefit from very happy and fulfilling early years experiences.
- The staff team are skilful, conscientious and dedicated to their roles. They have an excellent understanding of each child, their preferred ways of learning and how they can promote learning to an even higher level. As a result, children's excellent progress is assured.
- Teaching is excellent. Staff know how to enthuse children with stimulating activities and play alongside to enhance experiences by asking pertinent questions, demonstrating play or allowing children time to find out things for themselves. Children are, consequently, engaged, active and inquisitive learners.
- Babies and the youngest children are especially well cared for and benefit from the excellent practices demonstrated by staff. They thrive in an environment thoughtfully organised to ensure they can practise their developing physical skills in safety and explore the stimulating resources available to them.
- Children settle quickly at the nursery because of the outstanding links with parents and key staff. Consistent and continued sharing of information further ensures a coordinated approach to children's care, learning and well-being.
- Safeguarding practices are robust. Staff know how to protect children from harm and who they should report their concerns to. Consequently, children are safe both in the nursery and when making local trips with staff.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- implement planned improvements to the already excellent monitoring systems that will both inspire staff to attain even higher levels of skills and knowledge and benefit all children in their care.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the main rooms and in the outside learning environment.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and proprietor and spoke with children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector and manager took part in a joint observation.
- The inspector took the views of parents into account.
- The inspector looked at children's learning and development files, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of practitioners working within the setting, the provider's self-evaluation form and a range of other documentation.

### Inspector

Jacqueline Baker

## Inspection findings

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

Children have an excellent start in their education at the nursery. Throughout the day they enjoy stimulating activities, such as those to enhance their senses. Colour mixing in the outdoor water tray provides endless scope for experimentation as does playing with porridge oats to explore texture. Babies also enjoy investigating and delight in experiencing gloop, which is a mixture of corn flour and water. Here they spend a considerable amount of time pushing their hands through the substance and developing strength and important coordination skills. Pre-school children are prepared extremely well for school. Staff ensure they have the attributes needed, such as, concentration, careful listening skills and the independence needed for their transitions. Children thoroughly enjoy favourite stories skilfully read by staff. Their literacy skills are promoted extremely well as they learn about authors and appreciate that text carries meaning. Entertaining props accompany stories and enhance children's experiences. This helps children to develop a love of books which will support them extremely well in the future.

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

Staff value outstanding partnerships with parents. Consequently, children feel secure at the nursery and form strong attachments with their key person. Independence skills are encouraged at an early age. Staff teach younger children about washing their hands before meals and encourage them make decisions about their own meals and drinks. Children learn about healthy diets during mealtimes, as staff talk about what is, and what is not good for them. Outside play and frequent visits to the local community on board the large nursery push-along bus, also ensures children have plenty of fresh air and exercise in their daily routines. Staff have an excellent understanding about how to keep children safe at such times and also help children to learn how to keep themselves from harm. When needed, staff use a variety of soothing activities as a distraction from disruptive behaviours. Consequently, children behave well and learn to play happily together.

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

The management team have an excellent understanding of their responsibilities. Outstanding recruitment, induction and professional management procedures are in place and this means that only the best staff are selected and remain at the nursery. Exceptional opportunities are in place to encourage staff to attend training and develop their skills further. For example, staff have received training about how children show repeated patterns in their play, otherwise known as schemas. This has had a great impact on children's experiences and allows staff to plan learning opportunities best suited to individual needs. Monitoring of children's progress is robust and enables staff to clearly identify those in need of further support. Nevertheless, managers aspire to developing both staff skills and ways in which this is achieved even further. Partnerships with parents and other providers are outstanding and this too supports children's excellent progress in their early years.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY389853
<b>Local authority</b>	Cambridgeshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	859221
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	48
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	86
<b>Name of provider</b>	Wigwam Nurseries Ltd
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	14 May 2009
<b>Telephone number</b>	01353661442

The Maltings Day Nursery was registered in 2009. The nursery employs 14 members of childcare staff. Of these, 13 hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and above, including the manager with Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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