

Clowns Day Nursery

12 Cromford Road, RIPLEY, Derbyshire, DE5 3FP



Inspection date

14 May 2015

Previous inspection date

1 September 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children are safe. Staff are vigilant in implementing vigorous safeguarding policies and procedures. They attend regular training and know the procedures to follow if they have a concern about a child. Robust risk assessments minimise hazards. As a result, children are safe at all times.
- Overall, teaching is good. Staff complete concise, detailed assessments of children's learning. As a result, they can plan activities that are of interest to the children. Staff effectively meet the needs of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Consequently, all children make good-progress given their varying starting points and capabilities.
- Staff recognise the uniqueness of each child. The good individual key-person system effectively enhances relationships with children and their families. Consequently, children develop a strong sense of security and trusting bonds. As a result, children's emotional needs are nurtured and promoted well.
- Staff promote children's physical development effectively. As a result, children are handling equipment efficiently and gaining good control and coordination of their bodies. They use large equipment well and learn to balance and climb skilfully.
- Leadership and management are strong and there is a clear motivation to develop the nursery, in order to improve children's learning.
- Partnerships with the school, parents, local authority and outside agencies are well established. As a result, they make a strong contribution to providing continuity and consistency of care for all children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Teaching is not focused on helping older children to think at a higher level to increase their problem solving skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- raise the quality of teaching to be outstanding by providing children with more activities and resources for them to effectively use their exploratory and thinking skills, so that they develop a deeper understanding of how to solve problems.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the manager, members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed children at play, both inside and outside.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's learning records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children, the policies and procedures and the manager's action plan.

Inspector

Janice Hughes

Inspection findings

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

Children arrive with enthusiasm and have a positive attitude to learning. As a result, they are acquiring key skills for future learning. Staff are all well qualified and experienced. This has a positive impact on their understanding of how children learn best through play. Overall, most staff provide activities that motivate children and encourage them to learn. However, in the pre-school room, staff do not always provide extra challenges that enthuse children, to investigate more and solve problems. Babies and toddlers are developing well in the prime areas of learning. Staff promote communication and language skills well. Throughout the nursery adults are constantly talking to children, asking questions and holding purposeful conversations. Children learn about the natural world as they hunt for bugs and plant vegetables and flowers. They use their imagination well as they make cakes and pies in the mud kitchen.

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

Staff create a warm, welcoming, safe environment, where children can thrive and learn. Staff understand and meet children's individual needs through effective settling-in periods. Staff manage children's behaviour well. They have a strong commitment to encouraging positive behaviour through praise and encouragement, which boosts children's self-esteem and confidence. Children learn how to keep themselves safe through discussion and reminders. Staff promote good hygiene procedures and encourage the children to use their self-help skills effectively. As a result, children are well prepared for their move to school. The manager discusses children's achievements with teachers and passes on a summary of their learning. This sharing of information helps to provide continuity in children's learning and care. Children are beginning to learn about healthy lifestyles. They take part in daily exercise and enjoy healthy snacks and meals.

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

Leadership is strong. The manager is experienced and passionate towards her role. The safety of the children is a high priority. Suitably vetted and qualified staff, help to maintain high standards. The manager completes inductions, supervision sessions and appraisals with the staff to enhance their performance. She identifies staff's training needs sufficiently to broaden their continuous professional development. As a result, children are taught by knowledgeable staff. The manager checks on the progress of all children, so that they continue to make good progress. Consequently, gaps in children's achievement are narrowing and children are ready to move on to the next stage in their learning. The manager and her team reflect critically and have identified the strengths and weaknesses of the nursery. They have put together a detailed action plan and involved the parents in this. As a result, they are improving the quality of the service the nursery offers. Partnerships with parents are well established, which enables them to play an active part in their child's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY426249
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	852664
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	37
Number of children on roll	57
Name of provider	Clowns Day Nursery Ltd
Date of previous inspection	1 September 2011
Telephone number	01773747983

Clowns Day Nursery Ltd registered in 1990 and re-registered as a limited company in 2011. The nursery is open each week day, from 7.30am to 6pm, all year round, except for a week between Christmas and New Year, and bank holidays. The nursery receives funding for free early education for two-, and three-year-old children. In addition, the nursery supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. The nursery employs nine members of staff who all hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 3.

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