

Clowns Childrens Centre

Cinder Bank, Ironville, Derbyshire, NG16 5NN



Inspection date

15 May 2015

Previous inspection date

2 March 2012

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

- Staff are committed and enthusiastic in their approach to caring for children. All children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, or children who speak English as an additional language, develop a strong sense of belonging. They become confident, independent learners who enjoy their time at the nursery.
- The quality of teaching offers children a consistently good standard to thrive in all aspects of their learning, including their readiness for school.
- A very positive approach to inclusion is securely embedded by the well-qualified staff team. As a result, children form secure attachments with their key person.
- Children's individual needs are robustly monitored and swift and sensitive action is taken to continue the high level of support offered. This is because of the excellent partnerships in place with parents, professionals and external agencies.
- The leadership and management are strong, which promotes a whole nursery approach to self-reflection contributing to robust improvements. For example, effective systems are in place to monitor children's progress and staff suitability, training and performance.
- The staff's knowledge of safeguarding is secure. This means that children are protected effectively and cared for in a safe environment.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, children's independence skills are not always fully supported.
- Staff do not always explain to children why it is important to always use their own cups when selecting drinks.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide further opportunities for children to be more independent, so that they extend their own learning during water play activities
- use everyday routines, such as snack times, to consistently teach children about healthy practices.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed and spoke with the children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector viewed the premises where children have access to.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector checked the evidence of the qualifications and suitability of all staff that work in the nursery.
- The inspector viewed a range of documents, including children's files and assessment records. The inspector also looked at relevant policies and procedures and medication records.
- The inspector spoke with parents on the day, taking their views into account.

Inspector

Judith Rayner

Inspection findings

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

The well-qualified staff have good teaching abilities, and consistently promote children's development. Staff use information gained from observations and assessments of children effectively, to plan interesting and engaging activities. This means that children experience a broad range of activities and experiences across all the areas of learning and development, both inside and outdoors. Children make good progress in their learning and are active learners. They show confidence to have a go, as they experiment with water play outside. However, sometimes children's independence skills are not always fully supported. This is because some resources, such as water, are not easily accessible for them to extend their own learning during their chosen activities. Toddlers also enjoy water play inside. They concentrate and remain at the activity for good lengths of time. This is because staff entice children by asking questions, adding suitable resources and help make the activity fun.

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

Staff understand the importance of gathering useful information from the parents and children from the outset. This helps the staff meet the individual needs of all children. Children are very well supported during their moves on to the next stage of their learning. This is because all those involved with the child are kept updated and involved with the child. Children have secure relationships with the staff who nurture them to be confident and happy. Children's behaviour is good, and from a young age learn about the importance of being kind to one another. All children enjoy daily fresh air in the well-resourced outdoor play area, which enhances their physical development effectively. Children are provided with healthy and well-balanced meals, appropriate for their age and specific dietary requirements. However, when children help themselves to drinks, staff do not always explain the importance of using their own cup. This means children do not gain a clear understanding of healthy practices.

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

The manager has only been in her role for a short period of time and significant improvement has been made since the last inspection. For example, activities, such as baking, involve children in making their own cakes for snack. This helps children have more control over their learning to keep their interest and develop their creativity. The management team, manager and the staff team reflect critically and have identified improvements for the nursery. As a result, they are improving the quality of the service the nursery offers. The management team also effectively use the individual skills of the staff within the organisation team, which children benefit from. For example, bilingual staff support parents during their child's settling-in time, and translate and share information about children's activities and assessments. Staff are supported to develop their practice through ongoing training opportunities. This has a positive impact on children's learning and development. There is an effective vetting and induction programme in place.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY283274
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	861139
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	75
Number of children on roll	54
Name of provider	Clowns Children Centre (Ironville) Limited
Date of previous inspection	2 March 2012
Telephone number	01773 540050

Clowns Children's Centre was registered in 2004. It is one of six privately owned nurseries. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 5, four at level 3 and one is unqualified. The nursery opens from 8am until 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, term time only. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

