

Cherry Tree Nursery

5 Dixon Way, LINCOLN, LN6 7XN



Inspection date

2 June 2015

Previous inspection date

29 January 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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

- Significant improvements have been made since the last inspection to improve children's care and learning experiences.
- The qualified staff team have a good knowledge and understanding of individual children. They gather information about their interests, capabilities and individual learning needs through regular observations and assessments. This enables them to effectively plan for all children's next steps in learning.
- Children develop independence skills very well. This is because staff encourage them to try to do things for themselves, for instance, putting on their own coats and shoes ready to go outdoors.
- Children's behaviour is good. Staff give consistent, positive messages. For instance, they say, 'We are going to share, aren't we?' As a result, children develop an understanding of what is expected of them.
- The manager places high priority on ensuring staff have a secure understanding of what to do if they have concerns about a child in their care. For instance, each room has a quick reference guide of the procedure to follow and who to call if they have concerns.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Partnerships with parents in relation to them being involved in the observations and next steps for their child's learning are not highly effective.
- Staff are not yet making the most of the different ways to further enhance their own practice, in order to improve staff's teaching to an outstanding level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the already good partnerships with parents by ensuring that they are all able to share information about observations and next steps in children's learning, for example, through the new computer system
- build further on the good quality of teaching by, for example, introducing a programme of peer observations, to focus more specifically on the sharing of good and better practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the nursery and held discussions with the provider and the manager.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed adult-led and free-play activities taking place in the three playrooms and outside area.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children and discussed the nursery's self-evaluation and improvement plan.

Inspector

Sharon Alleary

Inspection findings

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

Staff nurture children's curiosity when they find a snail. Children ask questions about the creature and learn how to hold it carefully without hurting it. As a result, they are discovering facts about nature and living things. Children develop their imagination in the mud kitchen. They mix a concoction of water, mud, glitter and pasta, and comment 'I'm making a cake'. Staff motivate children to learn by playing alongside them and joining in with the cake making. Pre-school children concentrate and listen well. They take part in group activities with enthusiasm. As a result, they are gaining key skills for their future learning. Children who speak English as an additional language are effectively supported. Staff find out key words used by children in their home languages. They use these, along with pictorial aids, to support children's understanding of English. Staff share information with parents at the end of a session. The nursery has recently started to use an online learning journal. However, staff have not best considered how to ensure that all parents access this so that partnership working is enhanced for the benefit of the children.

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

Children and their families are welcomed into the nursery. Staff know children very well. They are warm and caring, which develops children's self-confidence. Staff remind children to wash their hands after handling the bugs outside. Consequently, children develop an understanding of good hygiene practices. Children's self-esteem is good. The pre-school helper for the day proudly shows off their badge. They carry out duties, such as laying the table for lunch and being in charge of the tidy-up timer. As a result, they have a strong sense of belonging. Children find their name card and put it on the table to secure their place for snack. This develops their literacy skills. Children wash their hands and return to the table to cut up a pear with the safety knife. In addition, they develop their physical handling skills and pour a drink. Children develop an understanding of the benefits of fresh air and physical exercise when they play outside every day.

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

The provider has worked tirelessly to make significant improvements since the last inspection. They have employed a new, very dedicated manager and been open to support from outside agencies. As a result, all the actions and recommendations from the last inspection have been addressed. The manager oversees the tracking of children's progress to ensure that it is accurate. In addition, this information is used to ensure there are no gaps in the educational programme. Regular team meetings and staff supervisions help to ensure that all staff are well supported, and that any additional training needs are identified to enhance their practice. However, staff have not yet had the opportunity to share their good skills, for example, by evaluating each other's practice, to improve the quality of the provision even further. The manager encourages staff to attend training courses that will bring about improvements to their practice and ideas to enhance children's learning. In addition, some staff are working towards higher qualifications.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY473227
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	1005686
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	35
Number of children on roll	59
Name of provider	Roger Jennett
Date of previous inspection	29 January 2015
Telephone number	07711170171 or 01522 530456

Cherry Tree Nursery was registered in 2014. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds Qualified Teacher Status, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 6, one at level 5 and five at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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