

Maple Leaf Daycare

RAF Digby, Ashby De La Launde, Lincolnshire, LN4 3LH



Inspection date

21 July 2015

Previous inspection date

14 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		Outstanding	1
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's personal, social and emotional development is given the highest priority. Staff support children exceptionally well when there are changes in their lives, which helps them to develop resilience and cope with new experiences. As a result, they are emotionally well prepared for moves, such as going on to school.
- Staff use excellent strategies to teach children how to assess risk and keep themselves safe. Staff also ensure that children's welfare is effectively promoted through the implementation of robust safeguarding procedures.
- Highly effective strategies enable parents to be actively involved in their children's learning. Parents are encouraged to share what their child has enjoyed and achieved at home, and staff share details of activities at the setting. This provides consistency in children's ongoing learning and care.
- Staff make accurate assessments to develop a secure knowledge of children's abilities, interests and learning styles. They use these effectively to plan for next steps in children's learning. Consequently, children make good progress.
- Children enjoy the wide range of activities provided for them, both inside and outdoors. As a result, they are active, engaged and motivated to learn.
- Leadership and management of the nursery are strong. The manager carries out rigorous monitoring to evaluate and improve practice.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always extend activities to challenge the most-able children to their full potential.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase challenge for more-able children to further their thinking and learning, so that they make even better progress in their development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed samples of documentation, including evidence of suitability, staff qualifications and the setting's self-evaluation form.
- The inspector observed children engaged in activities in all three playrooms 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 inspection.
- The inspector spoke with children and staff during the inspection and held a meeting with the manager to discuss the leadership and management of the setting.

Inspector

Elisabeth Wright

Inspection findings

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

Staff use their good knowledge and understanding of how children develop to assess their progress accurately. They work in effective partnership with parents, carers and other professionals. This ensures that all children, including those who need additional support, make good progress. The quality of teaching is good because staff know the children well. Staff plan well and adapt their teaching to meet children's individual needs. Occasionally, staff do not provide additional challenge for the most-able children. Babies develop coordination as they persist with activities that interest them. Older children demonstrate their mathematical knowledge as they compare, categorise and count objects as they play. Children enjoy a wide variety of stimulating activities, both indoors and outside. Therefore, they develop good skills and knowledge across all areas of development. Children are motivated and enthusiastic learners. As a result, they are prepared well for their move on to school. Older early years children who attend the wrap-around care facility quickly settle and enjoy their activities. This complements their school day well.

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

Children develop excellent social skills. They play cooperatively in a group, listening to one another and expressing their own thoughts clearly and confidently. Highly effective strategies ensure that parents keep in touch with their children's activities and development when away on military service. The strong attachments key persons establish with children give them an excellent sense of security and belonging. As a result, children's emotional development is exceptionally well supported. For example, young children preparing for a party approach the change in routine confidently and with excited anticipation. Children's behaviour is excellent. This is because staff are consistent in their expectations and give clear explanations. Children benefit from plenty of opportunity to play outside in fresh air. They discuss healthy eating with staff and understand which foods are good for them.

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

The manager has a secure knowledge and understanding of the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Robust procedures for vetting the suitability of adults to work with children are in place. The well-qualified staff team attend ongoing training to ensure that the good standards of care and education they provide for children continue to improve. Staff seek children's views on changes to the environment. Children confidently express the ideas they have for activities, for example, they ask if they can experiment with cucumber in the mud kitchen. Parents spoken to on the day of inspection say that their views are sought and valued. They are very happy with the support their children receive from staff. Children benefit from the good relationships established with the local school and external agencies. Key information is shared to promote children's care, learning and development across settings.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY247003
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	860273
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	65
Number of children on roll	87
Name of provider	Maple Leaf Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	14 March 2012
Telephone number	01526 327653

Maple Leaf Daycare was registered in 2009 and is situated on a military base. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff, all whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 5.30pm. Wrap-around provision for school-aged children operates from 7.30am until 8.45am and 3.15pm until 5.30pm during term time, and from 7.30am until 5.30pm in school holidays. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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