

Close to Home Childcare Ltd

97 Station Road, Burnham on Crouch, Essex, CM0 8HR



Inspection date

21 July 2015

Previous inspection date

16 July 2009

| 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

- The quality of teaching is good and in some instances, outstanding. Children are making very good progress due to consistent teaching practices.
- Children's communication and language are very effectively supported. They understand the process of listening, absorbing information and responding.
- Staff provide excellent support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. They work tirelessly with other professionals and parents to promote an individual programme to support children's ongoing development.
- Children are highly motivated to learn. Staff act as excellent role models to install high levels of confidence and independence.
- Children's understanding of how to keep themselves safe is very good. Safety checks are completed by children and staff together to help them identify risks and promote safe play.
- Children's physical well-being is promoted extremely well. They learn to become independent in putting their shoes on, getting dressed, toileting and feeding themselves. These skills are required in readiness for school.
- The partnership with parents is extremely effective. They are consistently kept informed of their children's progress. They receive very useful information as to how to support learning at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On some occasions, management do not fully support staff to effectively recognise the need to extend children's thinking and learning further, particularly in child-led play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance staff's existing and established good practices to focus more sharply on how to extend children's learning further, particularly throughout child-led activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out observations of children's learning and staff's teaching in both indoor and outdoor play environments.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took into consideration the comments from parents spoken to on the day of the inspection and written testimonials from others.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.
- The inspector took account of the provider's self-evaluation form and plans for future improvements.

Inspector

Claire Parnell

Inspection findings

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

Staff provide a wealth of experiences for children, both indoors and outdoors, to reflect their interests. They know children extremely well and know how they learn best. Therefore, children are eager to learn. Staff help children to understand the world around them. Children show a great fascination when they explore and experiment with materials, such as grass, sand and growing plants. Children look in recipe books for ideas for what to make in their mud kitchen. They use precise movements with scissors to cut herbs and grass to produce their own salad. Staff use the effective assessment programme to constantly check children's learning and progress. They plan for their next steps by using information from their observations and from children's achievements at home. Parents are well informed about their children's learning. They play an important part in providing children with consistent learning strategies.

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

Children's well-being is exceptionally promoted by all staff. Children socialise very well with each other. This is due to the extremely effective strategies used by staff to promote socially acceptable behaviour. These support children's emotional well-being when transferring to their next place for learning. Children become self-assured when moving rooms or on to school. This is due to the very successful process in place to provide gradual settling in and the sharing of information. Therefore, children receive consistent care and learning strategies. Staff provide a highly stimulating and organised environment. Both indoors and outdoors are very well resourced. This encourages children to make choices for themselves and to make decisions in their play, promoting their well-being. Children's individual backgrounds are highly celebrated. Children share their home experiences with others. Staff help children to find out about different traditions, such as festivals, to provide them with a vibrant and rich experience of people's differences.

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

Management are very active within the setting and clearly know every child. Safeguarding takes a very high priority. All staff have a very robust knowledge of procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child and receive ongoing training to test their understanding. Thorough procedures are in place to ensure children's welfare is promoted well. For example, accident records are checked to highlight any ongoing concerns. Staff work cohesively to make changes immediately, once weaknesses are identified. Parents, staff, children and management work together to develop the service further. Management provide a successful staff development programme. They track staff's performance and use these observations to provide a programme for ongoing training and qualifications to support individual children's progress. However, management do not always recognise the support that staff need to extend children's learning even further, particularly during child-led activities.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY388219 |
| Local authority | Essex |
| Inspection number | 859091 |
| Type of provision | Full-time provision |
| Registration category | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Age range of children | 0 - 11 |
| Total number of places | 22 |
| Number of children on roll | 67 |
| Name of provider | Close to Home Childcare Ltd |
| Date of previous inspection | 16 July 2009 |
| Telephone number | 01621 782787 |

Close to Home Childcare Ltd was registered in 2009. The nursery employs seven members of childcare staff. All of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including two at level 5 and level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 7pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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