

Headstart Nursery (Deeping)

Towngate East, Market Deeping, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, PE6 8LQ



Inspection date

7 August 2015

Previous inspection date

24 February 2010

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 provide children with a wide range of stimulating activities to capture their interest. This means children are busy and active learners who make good progress at nursery.
- Partnerships with parents are valued by staff. They work tirelessly to find innovative ways to help families with ideas of how to extend children's learning at home. Equally, parents readily share news of children's achievements and experiences outside of the nursery, which helps staff to build on what children already know.
- Support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities is especially good. Staff are skilled, extremely knowledgeable and dedicated to continually improving experiences for children. Consequently, children's progress is assured.
- Staff ensure children are confident and well prepared for their move to school. They plan a range of activities that introduce children to new routines, which helps to lessen anxieties at this important time.
- The management team has high aspirations and strive to improve experiences for all children and babies. They encourage staff to develop through a variety of ways, which ultimately means children benefit from their improved knowledge and skills. For example, staff working with babies have reorganised and improved their environment after considering messages from recent training.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, some staff do not join in with young children in their freely chosen play for long enough to model sustained concentration.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase staff support for young children during their freely chosen play, in order for them to learn how to focus and develop good concentration skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in both the inside and outside learning environments.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager, area manager, temporary deputy manager and the proprietor.
- The inspector and temporary deputy manager took part in joint observations.
- The inspector took the views of parents into account.
- The inspector looked at children's learning journals, planning documentation, evidence of suitability of staff working within the setting, the provider's self-evaluation form and a range of other documentation.

Inspector

Jacqueline Baker

Inspection findings

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

Children and babies make good progress at the nursery. They are cared for by staff who know them well and understand the importance of interesting and playful experiences to help them learn. Older children benefit from very good and sometimes outstanding teaching. Children learn to recognise letters and numbers as they play with staff and further their mathematical skills as they spontaneously measure each other's height. Others express themselves creatively by making models, mixing paint or pretending to bake cakes. Together, staff and children play and discuss what they are doing or planning. Needless to say, older children communicate well. Equally, babies first utterances are encouraged as they enjoy playing with water. Staff repeat simple words, such as duck or bubbles, and celebrate when babies try this for themselves. Younger children learn to join in with large-group activities and are supported well by staff who lead singing and encourage enthusiastic instrument playing. Young children are generally busy and they learn to join in. However, when young children are free to choose their own activity, there are occasions when some staff leave them after a short time to undertake routine tasks. Consequently, some children lose interest in what they are doing.

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

Staff know children and babies well and form strong and supportive bonds with each one. Babies' routines are diligently coordinated with parents, making the transition from home to nursery a positive one. Children behave well because staff offer consistent and age-appropriate support to teach children right from wrong. Nutritious meals and snacks are provided and children learn how to grow fruits and vegetables in the garden. Independence is encouraged, especially at meal and snack time. Children pour drinks, help themselves to food and place cups and plates ready for washing-up when they have finished. Staff are vigilant to children's safety and make frequent checks to both indoor and outdoor areas. Children learn how to protect themselves, especially during the hot weather when sun cream and hats are essential. Both indoor and outdoor areas offer good quality toys and resources to support babies and children's all-round development.

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

The management team is strong and highly motivated to provide the very best for children. Monitoring of children's progress is thorough and swiftly identifies those needing more support. Staff have a good awareness of local safeguarding procedures and who they should report to should they be concerned about a child. Self-evaluation is embedded in practice and includes the views of staff, parents and all involved with the nursery. Professional management systems are good and support staff improvement over time. Partnerships with other professionals and providers are effective.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY330442
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	862451
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	109
Number of children on roll	168
Name of provider	Lincolnshire Childcare Ltd
Date of previous inspection	24 February 2010
Telephone number	01778 380992

Headstart Nursery (Deeping) was registered in 2006. The nursery employs 19 members of childcare staff. Of these, 16 hold appropriate early years qualifications, including two who hold Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. 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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