

The Co-operative Childcare Blackbird Leys

Blackbird Leys Nursery, Cuddesdon Way, Blackbird Leys, Oxford, OX4 6JP



Inspection date 19 August 2015
Previous inspection date 27 March 2014

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

- All children's communication skills are very good. Staff talk to the babies about what they are doing and respond to babies' babble. They ask older children interesting questions that encourage discussion.
- Recruitment procedures are robust and all staff are confirmed as suitable to work with children before they start at the nursery. The comprehensive induction programme includes a range of training, close monitoring and continued support from the manager and her deputy.
- Staff create a bright and stimulating environment. There is plenty for children to look at and discuss.
- The manager, her deputy and staff are fully committed to improving the provision. They have worked hard since the last inspection to improve the outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although self-evaluation is good, not all those associated with the nursery are fully involved in evaluating practice.
- The programme for mathematical development is less well focused than other areas so children's understanding lacks breadth.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- broaden children's mathematical understanding by giving them a reason to count through a wider range of activities, such as stories, songs, games and imaginative play
- find ways to involve all those associated with the nursery in the evaluation process to help identify areas for improvement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing indoors and out.
- The inspector looked at a range of documents, including policies and procedures, and children's records.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with parents to obtain their views of the nursery.
- The inspector spent time observing staff practice with the manager.

Inspector

Fran Fielder

Inspection findings

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

Children make good progress in all areas of learning because teaching is consistently strong across the whole nursery. Staff provide an interesting range of resources that encourage children to explore and experiment, such as logs and tyres. Babies draw lines and experiment with colour. They are skilfully supported by experienced staff who fully understand the needs of the youngest children. All children have access to a stimulating outdoor area where they can play in a mud kitchen, experiment with the flow of water or play on large equipment. There are display boards that show the areas of learning each child needs to develop. Although key persons support children's mathematical development, not all children acquire a broad understanding.

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

Children develop good relationships with staff, especially their key person. They are independent and confident because staff encourage them to do things for themselves. Staff are consistent in the way they manage children's behaviour. As a result, children behave well and understand how to act in different situations. Staff prepare children well for school by encouraging them to manage their personal needs and discussing the schools they will go to. Staff promote children's good health by explaining the need for good hygiene. In the garden, there are covered areas so children can enjoy outdoor play in all weathers throughout the year. This keeps children healthy and encourages an active lifestyle. Children receive a range of nutritious meals that are prepared daily. This ensures children have a healthy, balanced diet.

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

The manager has a very good understanding of the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The deputy is confident, well qualified and able to take charge if the manager is unavailable. Self-evaluation is mainly completed by the manager. Staff are well qualified and have many opportunities to increase their skills and knowledge. As a result, they are able to meet children's care and learning needs well. Staff work well with various external agencies to make sure all children receive the care and support they need. The manager and her deputy monitor staff performance and children's progress well. They provide feedback to staff to help improve performance. There are good procedures to ensure children are safe at all times and that their individual learning needs are met. Staff have a good understanding of safeguarding. Parents are pleased with the current management structure and recognise that the leadership is strong.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY401464
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	1022466
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	84
Number of children on roll	83
Name of provider	The Midcounties Co-operative Limited
Date of previous inspection	27 March 2014
Telephone number	01865 401205

The Co-operative Childcare Blackbird Leys is one of 48 provisions run by The Midcounties Co-operative Limited. It registered in 2009 and is situated in the Blackbird Leys area of Oxford. The nursery is registered on the Early Years Register and on the compulsory part of the Childcare Register. The nursery makes provision for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and children who are learning English as an additional language. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am until 6.30pm all year, excluding bank holidays. It operates a holiday club during school holidays and maintains links with the local children's centre. The nursery employs 24 staff including the manager, deputy manager, an administrator, a chef, and two cleaners. Of the 20 staff who work directly with children, one has a level 6 qualification, 14 have a level 3 qualification, four have a level 2 qualification and one person is unqualified.

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