

Rockinghorse Daycare

Lime Tree Barn, Welgate, Mattishall, DEREHAM, Norfolk, NR20 3PJ



Inspection date

6 October 2015

Previous inspection date

12 September 2008

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Leadership and management are strong. Management understands their responsibility to meet the legal requirements. They show a strong commitment to working towards excellence in all areas. Staff are enthusiastic and motivated.
- Staff are committed to working together with parents and this is a key strength of this nursery. Staff respect parents as their child's key educator. They encourage parents to remain actively involved in their children's learning, both in the nursery and at home.
- Teaching strategies meet children's individual learning styles. Staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They plan and provide a wide range of activities that support children's good progress.
- The key-person system is implemented well. Key persons build friendly and trusting relationships with parents and children. They make sure that children's care and learning needs are met.
- Children behave exceptionally well and respond positively to the high expectations from staff. Children develop good friendships with each other, play well together and have regard for each other's needs and feelings.
- All children on roll make good progress from their starting points. Management and staff monitor children's progress. Any gaps in their learning are quickly identified and managed.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the best use of the outdoor play areas to help promote children's early reading skills.
- Children's privacy and confidentiality is not fully assured because of the current system for recording the administration of medication.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

Due Date

- strengthen the arrangements for acknowledging confidentiality and children's privacy by reviewing how medication administered to children is recorded. 09/10/2015

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

- focus more closely on providing opportunities in the outdoor areas to extend children's early reading skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the nursery deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector looked at activity planning, records of children's learning and a selection of policies and records.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jacqueline Mason

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff are aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse and know how to report concerns. Self-evaluation is used well. Improvements are led by a management team that supports staff well in their day-to-day practices. They enthuse staff and work together as part of a cohesive staff team. The turnover of staff is low. A programme of regular staff supervision and appraisal is well established, in order to provide effective support, coaching and mentoring. Staff training and professional development opportunities are supported, to further improve and promote high-quality teaching and learning experiences for children. Necessary documentation is maintained. However, records of medication given to children are documented in a continuous list. This does not ensure that confidentiality is maintained.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children well. They find out about children's starting points when they first attend the nursery and continue to encourage parents to share what they know about their child. Staff talk confidently about where children are in their learning and what they need to do to support their continuing progress. Staff plan a varied range of activities that are rooted in children's interests and next steps in their learning. Planning is flexible to promote children's enjoyment of learning and allow for their changing interests. Staff have high expectations of what children can achieve. They promote children's communication skills well. Staff respond well to the babbles and gestures of babies and engage older children in conversation. Children enjoy playing outdoors. Management recognise that there is scope to make better use of opportunities to extend children's early reading skills in the outdoor environment.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's move from home to nursery is managed well. Children are settled, happy and develop secure emotional attachments in this warm and welcoming nursery. Transitions between rooms are effective. Children develop the confidence to embrace new experiences and become ready for school. Staff provide a secure, interesting and stimulating play and learning environment. Children feel safe. Their health and physical needs are met well. Parents value the good level of support that staff provide to their children and themselves, describing staff as 'friendly', 'caring' and 'approachable'. Children develop positive attitudes to others. They learn to respect each other's similarities and differences as they make friends, engage other children in their play and readily share popular resources.

Outcomes for children are good

Management monitor the records of children's learning to ensure that staff are meeting children's individual learning needs. Staff assess children's learning effectively, to monitor the progress that they are making towards their early learning goals. Any emerging gaps are quickly identified, so that appropriate support can be sought. Regular summaries of children's learning are shared with parents.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY371024
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	858038
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 12
Total number of places	28
Number of children on roll	25
Name of provider	Rockinghorse Daycare Partnership
Date of previous inspection	12 September 2008
Telephone number	01362 850409

Rockinghorse Daycare was first registered in 2003 and re-registered in 2008 when it moved premises. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including a member of staff with Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and a week at Christmas. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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