

Creative Days Nursery

Heathfields Primary School, Field Avenue, Hatton, Derby, Derbyshire, DE65 5EQ



Inspection date	24 November 2015
Previous inspection date	30 October 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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

- Staff provide a welcoming and well-resourced environment. Children develop strong and close attachments to staff. The key-person system effectively helps to support children's emotional development.
- Staff complete precise assessments of children's learning. They identify children's next steps and any gaps in their learning and provide activities to close the gaps. Staff effectively meet the needs of disabled children and those with special educational needs and children who speak English as an additional language.
- Staff promote children's communication and language skills well. They encourage conversations and ask children questions. Children use their language confidently. They are expressive and confident during their play and interactions with the staff and each other.
- Staff manage children's behaviour well. They are positive role models and provide clear explanations to help children know what is expected. Children show respect for others and play harmoniously together. They share toys and learn to take turns.
- Partnerships with parents are well established. There are good two-way systems for sharing information about children's needs and achievements. Staff keep parents well informed about children's development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, group activities are not sufficiently focused on supporting older children to extend their concentration and listening skills.
- Sometimes in the pre-school room, staff do not provide extra challenges that enthuse children to investigate even more. Teaching is not focused on helping older children to think at a higher level and increase their problem-solving skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the teaching of group times and provide more opportunities for children to improve their listening and attention skills
- provide children with more opportunities for them to effectively use their exploratory and thinking skills and solve problems.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the staff, children and managers at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed children's play and learning in both playrooms and outside.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the managers of the nursery.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day of inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's learning records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children. She also looked at the policies and procedures and the manager's self-evaluation documentation.

Inspector

Janice Hughes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leadership is strong. There is a clear motivation to develop and improve the quality of the nursery. Management and staff have worked hard since the last inspection and addressed all actions and recommendations. Staff attend regular training courses and use the knowledge and ideas gained to enhance children's learning and development. Management monitors the children's progress and staff performance effectively. The managers reflect critically and have identified the strengths and weaknesses of the nursery. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff understand their responsibilities to protect the children from harm. They know who to contact and what to do if they have a concern about a child. Recruitment procedures are robust and ensure all staff are suitable to work with children. Partnerships with the school, local authority and outside agencies are well established.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and understand that children learn through play. Overall, staff teach well. They are enthusiastic and work well as a team. They provide a wide range of activities that are of interest to the children. Staff interact with children positively and recognise the uniqueness of each child. Children are active and demonstrate that they enjoy their time at the nursery. Children's physical development is good. They handle a variety of equipment efficiently and gain good control and coordination of their bodies. Babies and younger children have good opportunities to develop their creative skills. They sprinkle glitter onto pre-cut Christmas trees and giggle as it falls through their fingers. Older children use their imagination well. They make chocolate cakes in the mud kitchen and become shop keepers as they play with the electronic tills. Older children use a variety of writing materials and independently look at books. Children count and use mathematical language, such as, big, small and taller as they build towers.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy in a friendly, safe environment. Babies and young children develop a strong sense of security. Pre-school children demonstrate that they are confident and move around the nursery at ease. They choose what they want to play with and whether they wish to play inside or stay indoors. Staff encourage children to follow effective hygiene procedures. Older children have a good understanding of the importance of self-care. They independently put their own shoes and coats on as they go outside. They take part in activities and discussions with staff that help them to develop their understanding about staying safe. Children use equipment carefully. Children take part in daily exercise and enjoy healthy home-made meals. Staff help to prepare children well for their move to school. There are very good links with the host local school.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are progressing well in their learning and development, including those who receive funded education. Older children are acquiring the key skills for future learning. Children have a positive attitude to learning and are gaining good independent skills. Children's literacy and mathematical skills are developing well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	206227
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	1028299
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	46
Number of children on roll	46
Name of provider	Patricia Jane Billings & Carol Ann Nicklin Partnership
Date of previous inspection	30 October 2013
Telephone number	01283 810033

Creative Days Nursery was registered in 2001. The nursery opens from 8am until 6pm Monday to Friday, all year round except for a week between Christmas and New Year, and bank holidays. The nursery receives funding for free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports disabled children and those with special educational needs and children who speak English as an additional language. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3.

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