

Keepers Cottage Day Nursery



Keepers Cottage Day Nursery, North Luffenham Road, STAMFORD, Lincolnshire, PE9 3UT

Inspection date	19 January 2016
Previous inspection date	24 February 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 build positive relationships with parents. Parents state that they are well informed about their child's development.
- The manager seeks the views of staff, parents and children to help her to evaluate the provision. She effectively uses their suggestions and comments to determine ways to consistently improve the nursery.
- Staff plan a wide range of exciting, enjoyable and interesting activities that promotes learning across the seven areas.
- The manager and staff effectively monitor the progress of different groups of children to swiftly identify and address any gaps which may emerge in learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children are not always given opportunities to think and respond to the questions they are asked in order to develop their critical-thinking skills.
- More-capable children are not consistently supported in taking on responsibilities in everyday tasks and building upon their independent learning.
- Children do not have the same opportunities outdoors as they do inside to explore and learn through discovery.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support children's emerging skills in thinking about and formulating their responses to questions posed as they learn to express and share their ideas
- provide older, more-capable children with more opportunities to take responsibility in everyday tasks
- increase the opportunities for children to explore and investigate outdoors.

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 completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Lorna Blackie

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leaders and managers are good role models, who understand and implement the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They use their good skills and knowledge well to support the staff team. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff fully understand their role in protecting children and are well trained in safeguarding issues and paediatric first aid. Safe recruitment procedures are in place. Staff are well supported through good quality induction and supervision procedures. Staff are well qualified and experienced. They attend training to continue to update their knowledge of how children learn and develop. Partnerships with parents and the local authority are well established.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know their key children very well. They gather information to assess what children know and can do at the start and carefully monitor their ongoing progress. Staff are able to identify when children's progress is less than expected. They implement support swiftly to ensure that they make best possible progress. The learning environment provides suitable choices for children and activities are planned to capture their interest. Staff have a clear understanding of the different ways that children learn. Across all age groups, activities are exciting and interesting. Older children immerse themselves as they explore colour mixing. Babies thoroughly enjoy exploring sensory materials. Children are developing good mathematical skills. They count spontaneously as they build and recognise numbers in the environment. Parents are kept informed of their children's progress and are encouraged to share their child's learning at home with the nursery. Children enjoy being physically active and use large and small equipment with increasing skill.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy, settled and enjoy their time at nursery. The indoor environment is bright, welcoming and well resourced. Staff have high expectations of children and their behaviour is exemplary. Children's individual needs are carefully considered and consistently met. During play they learn to share and take turns through positive interaction with the staff. The key-person system is effective and supports children's well-being and emotional development. Babies enjoy close contact with staff and are regularly given cuddles when they are tired. Children enjoy a healthy snack and lunch. Fresh food is prepared and cooked on-site every day. Children's health needs are met well and they are supported to be independent in their self-care needs. Children develop a good understanding of how to prevent cross-contamination.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress towards the early learning goals. They are prepared for their next stage in their learning, including school. Assessments of the children's progress are accurate. Gaps in learning are identified and the targeted action taken improves the outcomes for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY280321
Local authority	Rutland
Inspection number	848661
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	64
Number of children on roll	93
Name of provider	Climbing High Nurseries Limited
Date of previous inspection	24 February 2011
Telephone number	01780 721880

Keepers Cottage Day Nursery was registered in 2004 and is owned by Climbing High Nurseries LTD. The nursery employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.45am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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