

Clever Clogs Day Nursery

The Old Library, Coptfold Road, Brentwood, Essex, CM14 4BN



Inspection date	28 January 2016
Previous inspection date	2 November 2012

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

- Staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They effectively promote children's problem-solving skills and encourage children to test out their own ideas. All children make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff support disabled children and those with special educational needs well. They work closely with health professionals and parents to provide a high level of consistent support so they can effectively meet children's complex needs.
- Staff place a high importance on keeping children safe. They complete thorough risk assessments and daily checks of the premises and remove or reduce hazards in the environment. Accidents are monitored thoroughly so that action can be taken to further reduce risks to children's safety.
- The management team is committed to improving outcomes for children. It has high expectations of staff and provides them with regular training opportunities to meet the needs of children and for staff's own professional development.
- The manager thoroughly checks the progress of individual and groups of children. She effectively uses this information to identify gaps in learning so that the appropriate support can be implemented.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff provide fewer opportunities for parents to be actively involved in their children's learning at the nursery and at home.
- Staff provide fewer opportunities for children who learn best outdoors to develop their curiosity and imagination in the outdoor environment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide parents with more opportunities to be involved and support their children's learning at the nursery and at home
- enhance the outdoor provision so that children who learn best outside have even more opportunities to develop their curiosity and imagination 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 completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager, one of the deputy managers and the 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 with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Daniella Tyler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff can identify the possible indicators of abuse and know the appropriate action to take if they have concerns for a child's welfare. The management team implements thorough and robust recruitment procedures so that staff are fully checked for their suitability to work with children. Good hygiene routines are followed in all rooms of the nursery, effectively promoting children's good health. The manager has a strong presence at the nursery and staff are fully supported by her on a day-to-day basis. They have regular meetings with her to address any issues and plan actions to help them improve their practice. The management team evaluates all aspects of the nursery and implements focused improvement plans that are reviewed regularly.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified staff have high expectations for children. They get to know individual children well through regular observations and accurate assessments of what they can do. Staff then plan activities that are matched to children's individual needs and interests. Babies are supported well with their physical skills. Staff provide a wide range of resources that enables babies to develop their hand grip, crawl and walk. They promote children's mathematical skills well. Children engage in physical games where they count how many steps they are taking. More-able children are encouraged to solve simple addition and subtraction through enjoyable play activities. Parents are notified about the activities their children have taken part in each day. Staff liaise regularly with parents about children's care needs and routines.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide a warm and welcoming environment that is well resourced. Children form close attachments to staff and form positive relationships with one another. Staff have a clear understanding of each child's dietary requirements and allergies. Effective procedures are in place to ensure that all children have the correct food for their needs. Staff have a good knowledge of food hygiene and staff in the baby room show an in-depth knowledge of how to safely prepare formula milk. Staff supervise children at all times and meet the required ratios to promote children's safety and well-being. Children and babies have many opportunities to be active and have access to fresh air. Staff support children to understand the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. Children enthusiastically talk about how eating vegetables makes them big and strong, while sitting at the lunch table. Mealtimes are a sociable occasion where children develop independence and staff promote good table manners.

Outcomes for children are good

Staff support children who speak English as an additional language well with their communication skills. All children make good progress given their starting points and capabilities. They are well prepared for the next stage in their learning, including starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY305294
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1036495
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 - 11
Total number of places	95
Number of children on roll	166
Name of provider	Clever Clogs Day Nursery Partnership
Date of previous inspection	2 November 2012
Telephone number	01277 220727

Clever Clogs Day Nursery was registered in 2005. The nursery employs 23 members of childcare staff. Of these, 22 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 7pm. The nursery provides funded 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.

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