

Whipper-snappers Daycare Nursery and Kids Club



Felmoor Farm, Braintree Road, Felsted, Dunmow, Essex, CM6 3EF

Inspection date	2 February 2016
Previous inspection date	25 August 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Leadership is inspirational. The management team shows a strong focus and passionate drive to provide excellent care and inspirational learning for children. Staff are highly motivated and work exceptionally well together, creating a secure, safe and wonderful learning environment for children.
- Partnerships with parents are exceptional and a particular strength at the setting. Staff value parents as partners and place the highest priority on working closely with all parents.
- The nursery provides a rich and vibrant learning environment where the children are highly stimulated. Varied and imaginative play experiences for children, especially outdoors, are delivered by staff who have an excellent understanding of how children learn.
- Staff are skilful in their interactions with children and use highly effective methods of teaching. As a result, children flourish and make excellent progress in their learning and development according to their starting points and capabilities.
- All staff are highly skilled and sensitive in helping children form secure emotional attachments and provide an exceptionally strong base for children's developing independence and exploration.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to raise the knowledge and skills of staff to an even higher level, enhancing children's experiences and providing inspiration to others.

Inspection activities

- The inspectors observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The lead inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspectors held a meeting with the nursery manager and providers. They looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspectors spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Clair Stockings and Jemma Hudson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Robust policies and procedures are in place, including those for the safe recruitment of staff. The nursery forms very successful links with local schools in order to support children's future move to school. Staff have high expectations and are motivated exceptionally well by the manager and senior staff. To continue to raise the knowledge and skills of staff to an even higher level, there is a comprehensive and ongoing programme for staff development that underpins the excellent educational programme on offer. Management and staff have an excellent understanding of the learning and development requirements. Monitoring of children's learning and development is accurate and precise and meticulously tracks the progress of both individual children and groups of children. Any gaps in learning are then swiftly identified and addressed. Comprehensive self-evaluation processes actively contribute to sustaining the highly effective provision and the outstanding service the setting provides.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children make rapid progress in their learning and development. Staff guide learning exceptionally well with outstanding teaching strategies, precise assessments and planning for individual children. There is an extremely strong focus on activities that promote investigation, exploration and experimentation, especially outdoors, with children using all of their senses. Younger children are extremely curious learners as staff develop their liking for messy play. Staff are skilled at introducing vocabulary. They pronounce words clearly, use lots of descriptive language and demonstrate consistently high-quality communication skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are exceptionally happy. They thrive in the extremely welcoming environment and quickly settle at activities. Their personal, social and emotional needs are exceedingly well met. Staff are highly skilled and ensure all children are helped to learn to the best of their ability. Children's independence is extremely well promoted from an early age and they follow good hygiene routines. Behaviour is excellent, because all staff are positive role models. Their calm approach ensures that children feel highly valued. While outdoors, staff are deployed effectively to skilfully supervise children so they are safe, but also encourage them to safely take risks and be adventurous in their play. As a result of the exceptional care offered by staff, children learn independence skills that will support and promote their future learning and eventual move to school.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make consistently high rates of progress in relation to their starting points and are extremely well prepared for the next stage of their education. Children are highly motivated and very eager to join in. They consistently demonstrate the characteristics of effective learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	402288
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	847902
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	154
Number of children on roll	206
Name of provider	Whipper-snappers Day Care Nursery Partnership
Date of previous inspection	25 August 2009
Telephone number	01371 821131

Whipper-snappers Daycare Nursery and Kids Club was registered in 2004. The nursery employs 29 members of childcare staff. Of these, 4 hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 2, 15 at level 3, two at level 4, one at level 5 and two at level 6. There is also one member of staff with Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays and one week at Christmas. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.15pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports a number of disabled children and those with special educational needs, and children who speak English as an additional language.

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