

Margery's Private Day Nursery

High Street, Thorpe le Soken, Frinton on Sea, Essex, CO16 0EF



Inspection date	18 February 2016
Previous inspection date	2 June 2010

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

- Parents receive continuous feedback from staff and children experience very good continuity of care. Information about children's learning is shared effectively with the other early years settings and schools they attend.
- Children of different ages play happily together and their behaviour is very positive. They display high levels of self-esteem and are skilfully supported to learn right from wrong.
- Staff effectively identify gaps in children's learning. They actively seek support from other professionals to provide children with any additional support they need, so all children make good progress.
- The management team has a clear vision of how to drive improvement, to better meet the needs of children. The nursery manager effectively monitors and evaluates the quality of teaching and, together with the staff, takes effective action to enhance the provision for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not support the youngest children to fully explore all of the activities and resources they show a spontaneous interest in.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for younger children to fully explore the activities and resources that capture their interest, in order to extend their learning further.

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 to staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and deputy manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views in written testimonials.

Inspector

Sarah Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a good understanding of what to do if they are concerned about a child. They receive ongoing support from the manager who regularly observes and evaluates their practice. They are encouraged to reflect upon and develop their teaching skills through regular training. The staff are well qualified and some are working towards higher qualifications. They use this as an opportunity to bring new initiatives into the nursery. For example, the nursery's Special Educational Needs Coordinator recently gained a specific qualification to enhance their knowledge of supporting disabled children and those with special educational needs. This has brought about further improvements to the assessment of children's individual needs. The management team has well-established improvement plans to enhance the quality of teaching, and continue to monitor the progress made by different groups of children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Assessments of what children know and can do are carried out regularly. Staff make effective use of their observations to plan stimulating activities that challenge children and promote their thinking skills. Opportunities for children to develop their early reading and writing skills in preparation for school are plentiful. Children practise writing letters in shallow trays of sand, and sing songs that feature letter names and sounds. Overall, the available space and resources are used effectively and children sustain their motivation to learn. They explore natural materials which engage all of their senses. Babies enjoy exploring wooden objects and scooping up pieces of dried pasta using their hands and various tools. Staff teach children to listen carefully to instructions, and encourage them to tackle new experiences with confidence. Children who encounter dough for the first time are prompted by staff's gentle encouragement and great enthusiasm to make it a fun learning experience.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children demonstrate that they feel safe and secure, even when they are very new to the nursery or moving into a new room. Children often manage daily tasks independently. They have plenty of opportunities to be physically active. They move their bodies energetically as they dance to music. Older children develop a strong awareness of how to meet their own health needs. They explain that they need to wear an extra layer of clothing to keep their bodies warm while playing outdoors in the chilly, fresh air. Staff provide children with consistent praise when they are kind to each other. Children demonstrate good manners throughout the nursery and are often heard being very polite and considerate in their conversations with others. Staff work very successfully in partnership with parents. They involve them in their children's learning, for instance, by suggesting fun reading activities for their children to do at home.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including disabled children and those with special educational needs, make good or better progress from their starting points. Children are confident communicators and are well prepared for school and their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	650099
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	869511
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 - 9
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	39
Name of provider	Christine Brenda Smith
Date of previous inspection	2 June 2010
Telephone number	01255 862558

Margery's Private Day Nursery was registered in 1997. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports disabled children and those with special educational needs.

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