

# Clarence House Day Nursery Grantham

70 Barrowby Gate, Grantham, NG31 7LT



## Inspection date

16 February 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Requires improvement</b>	<b>3</b>
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The pre-school room is not always organised well enough to ensure staff are able to effectively supervise children at all times.
- The quality of teaching is variable. Some children do not make good enough progress in their learning and development.
- The systems in place for ongoing staff supervision and monitoring do not focus enough on raising the quality of teaching to the highest level.
- On occasions, the organisation of group activities does not always successfully support all children to concentrate and listen, leading to some children becoming uninterested and unable to join in.

### It has the following strengths

- Disabled children and those with special educational needs make good progress given their starting points. This is because the nursery works in close partnership with outside agencies. Furthermore, they ensure that planning, observation and assessment procedures for these children are consistently effective and meet their individual learning needs.
- Good communication with parents means that they are well informed about their children's next steps in learning. Parents speak highly of the care their children receive.
- Children happily enter the nursery, confidently separating from their main carer. They respond well to the staff, who are kind and caring. As a result, children develop secure attachments with staff.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

### To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

	<b>Due Date</b>
■ review the organisation of the pre-school room, in order to minimise the number of minor accidents which go unnoticed by staff	29/04/2016
■ review the arrangements for the supervision and monitoring of staff practice to focus more on raising the quality of teaching, so that all children benefit from activities that engage and challenge them, helping them to move forward in their learning.	29/04/2016

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

- review the organisation of planned group activities to ensure that all children are able to join in and engage in stimulating learning opportunities.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises with the manager.
- 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. 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 took account of the views of children, staff and parents spoken to on the day of inspection.

### Inspector

Josie Mapes

## Inspection findings

### **Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement**

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a clear understanding of child protection procedures. They are well aware of the process to follow if they are concerned about a child's welfare. Self-evaluation includes the views of parents, children and staff. The manager tracks the progress of groups of children within the nursery to identify any gaps in learning. The manager has recently improved the systems in place for the supervision and monitoring of staff practice. However, they are not yet sufficiently focused on improving the quality of teaching throughout the nursery. She supports staff to access additional training to develop their skills.

### **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement**

Children enjoy playing and learning at the nursery although occasionally the standard of teaching is variable amongst the staff team. For example, as part of a planned group activity children enjoy a game about sounds. They listen to different noises to see if they can guess what is making the sound. However, the organisation of the group means that some children quickly lose interest and others are not sufficiently challenged. Staff provide a wide range of activities and resources for children to enjoy. Children take part in cooking and baking activities and enjoy playing in the mud kitchen outside. However, staff sometimes miss opportunities to extend children's learning experiences while they are playing. Staff regularly observe children during their play and identify the next steps in their learning. Staff work well with parents; they use information gained from parents to help them identify children's starting points. This guides their initial assessments, helping them to plan activities that best develop children's learning.

### **Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement**

Children settle well and form strong bonds with staff and their peers. They learn to share, take turns and play cooperatively. Children are provided with lots of opportunities to develop their independence and confidence. They are able to choose the activities and resources they wish to play with. They are supported by staff to help prepare healthy snacks and lunches. Staff act as good role models, speaking to children with warmth and kindness. Children have access to the well-resourced outdoor area for daily fresh air and exercise. They enjoy playing with a variety of equipment to enhance their physical development. Occasionally, the organisation of the pre-school room means that staff are not always fully aware of what all children are doing at all times. This results in some minor accidents going unseen by staff.

### **Outcomes for children require improvement**

All children make progress from their starting points. There are well established systems in place to monitor children's development and any extra support for individual children is provided promptly. All children, including those in receipt of funding, learn basic skills needed to support them in readiness for the move on to school. However, the quality of teaching requires improvement so that children are able to make good or better progress.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY478405
<b>Local authority</b>	Lincolnshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	979428
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	64
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	50
<b>Name of provider</b>	Clarence House Day Nurseries Ltd
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable
<b>Telephone number</b>	01476 560622

Clarence House Day Nursery Grantham was registered in 2014. The nursery employs 14 members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one with level 4, one with level 5, and one with Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round, from 7.30am to 6pm with the exception of bank holidays and Christmas holidays. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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