

The Cottage Private Day Nursery (Mansfield Road)

14 Mansfield Road, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE75 7AJ



Inspection date

31 March 2016

Previous inspection date

15 June 2011

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

- The nursery has a strong partnership with external professionals. Staff regularly share information about children to ensure that their needs are met and additional support is quickly identified.
- Staff observe children so that they know what they can do. They make good use of this information to establish what children need to learn next. The buddy system for the key person means that all staff know the children well.
- Staff provide good support for children's communication skills. Children who speak English as an additional language make rapid progress in their language acquisition.
- Staff place a strong focus on developing partnerships with children's families. They provide a range of interesting activities to engage parents, carers and extended family members in children's learning.
- Staff give very good support to children to help them to settle. They effectively support children when they are new and as they move through the nursery. Staff also help children to begin to feel ready for the move on to school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff do not challenge children enough to help them to make the best possible progress in their learning.
- Self-evaluation is not yet precise enough to closely monitor the difference that the quality of teaching is making to children's learning and development and where it needs to improve.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus more precisely on the evaluation of staff practice so that this rigorously identifies how staff can improve their teaching to increase the potential for children to make outstanding progress in their learning
- enrich planning so that children receive high levels of challenge during all activities and support them to make more rapid progress in their learning.

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 joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and deputy manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents and carers during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Justine Ellaway

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team continually strives to improve the quality of the provision. The team effectively gathers the views of parents, carers and children. It also involves staff in evaluating the effectiveness of the nursery. The management team uses this feedback, external evaluation of the nursery and training to make appropriate improvements to practice. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a secure understanding of what they would do if they had child protection concern. There are rigorous checks in place to establish the suitability of adults working in the nursery. The management team effectively uses monitoring to identify any gaps in children's learning. They make good use of additional funding to close these gaps.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

All staff have a childcare qualification. They demonstrate they have a sound understanding of how children learn and make good use of their knowledge to provide good quality teaching. There is a broad and interesting range of activities, including those provided by external teachers with specialist skills, to promote children's learning and development. Parents and carers express how much children enjoy the variety of activities. The nursery has good partnerships with other settings that children attend. The nursery has very recently received positive feedback from school. This was with regards to how well-developed children were, in terms of the skills they started school with. Staff regularly gather and share information with parents and carers to ensure there is consistent support for children's learning and development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave really well and are considerate of each other. Staff have consistent routines so that children know what is expected of them. Staff are good role models who promote a calm and relaxed atmosphere. They effectively promote children's decision making from a very early age. They organise the space so that children make independent choices about where they play. Staff also encourage and support children's independence in their self-care skills from an early age. Staff regularly promote children's understanding of a healthy lifestyle. For example, they talk about the effects of exercise on the body after physical play.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning. They develop the skills they need for their future learning. Children communicate well with others. They listen carefully to stories and recall what is happening. They undertake tasks, such as serving themselves at mealtimes and getting a tissue to blow their own nose. Children enjoy exploring different materials, building their confidence as they get used to the different textures. Children show good levels of independence as they confidently move between the rooms for much of the day.

Setting details

Unique reference number	257859
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	867093
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	34
Number of children on roll	59
Name of provider	The Cottage Day Nurseries Limited
Date of previous inspection	15 June 2011
Telephone number	01773 715726

The Cottage Private Day Nursery (Mansfield Road) was registered in 2001. The nursery employs 15 members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including one with Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports children who speak English as an additional language.

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