

Beach Babies

College House, 82 Green End, Landbeach, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, CB25 9FD



Inspection date	12 April 2016
Previous inspection date	24 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- The strong and committed management team strives for perfection and has high ambitions and expectations for the provision. Incisive self-evaluation means the nursery is constantly evolving to meet children's changing needs.
- A highly qualified and experienced staff team have an in-depth understanding of the children and how they learn and develop. New and less experienced staff are carefully mentored to achieve the same high level of performance.
- There is an outstanding partnership with parents and carers. Staff work closely with parents, particularly where there are additional concerns. Parents are delighted and especially praise the many forms of communication. They have a complete understanding of their children's achievements.
- Children benefit from inspiring outdoor activities. Staff work skilfully with the children to support their explorations and develop their understanding of the natural world. Children learn to take risks and appreciate the wonders of nature.
- Children's language development is promoted exceptionally well. Staff model correct language and engage the children in purposeful and fun conversations. Children develop extremely well and are highly articulate and confident.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to seek out new ways to extend children's excellent independence skills, evaluating the impact this has on their development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the pre-school leader.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and spoke to staff about how they plan for children's progress.
- The inspector looked at the premises and the resources available to the children, both indoors and outdoors.
- A range of documentation was looked at, including staff suitability and training, some policies and procedures and children's records.
- Discussions were held with a number of parents and their views and comments were taken into account.

Inspector

Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Managers inspire staff to constantly extend their knowledge of how children learn. They provide staff with opportunities to travel widely to look at other settings and experience different educational systems. For example, they visited Sweden to look at Forest Schools. They share their practice with other organisations and take part in research projects. As a result, staff are exceedingly well informed and are highly confident in their teaching skills. Managers empower staff to take responsibility for themselves and the children. They work together as a cohesive team, but each takes individual responsibility for the delivery of the exceptional educational programme. Children thrive and make outstanding progress. Safeguarding is effective. Rigorous training and continual reinforcement of child protection procedures help to ensure children are protected.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The highly qualified and experienced staff rigorously assess and track children's progress. They involve children in the planning of activities and incorporate their interests. Activities engage the children extremely well. They eagerly take part in activities, where they learn about numbers, shape and colour. For example, as they pick out their favourite train engines, staff encourage them to match red and blue, and big and small. Staff support all the children's activities with enthusiastic attention, motivating children to be independent explorers. As older children play in their pretend builder's yard, they put on their hard hats and create structures from wood and bricks. Measuring sticks help them to decide how high and wide to build. Younger children listen very attentively to stories. They sustain their concentration and remember stories they have heard before in great detail.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children quickly learn how to assess hazards and keep themselves safe. They consider carefully how to manoeuvre along slippery logs, or to use a rope swing safely. Great care is taken to ensure that children have healthy and nutritious meals and snacks. Children grow and harvest their own fruit and vegetables. Staff expertly teach them how good food helps them to develop. Staff work extremely closely with parents to build exceptionally warm and trusting relationships with children. They gather detailed information about children's home lives to support their emotional well-being. Children's behaviour is superb. They care about each other and have a mature understanding of rules and boundaries. While children show high levels of independence, staff are eager to make better use of opportunities that arise during routine activities to extend this further.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are highly confident and articulate. Long periods of time spent learning about and exploring the outdoors give them enormous self-reliance. Children persevere in their endeavours, pay attention and are determined to succeed. All children make rapid progress in their learning. Staff provide knowledgeable support for children who speak English as an additional language. Managers and key staff closely monitor each child's development and swiftly seek support for any who show signs of delay. Children are exceptionally well prepared for their move on to the next stage of their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY285216
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	861216
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 - 5
Total number of places	38
Number of children on roll	93
Name of provider	Beach Babies Limited
Date of previous inspection	24 May 2011
Telephone number	01223 860060

Beach Babies opened in 2004 and is privately owned. The nursery supports a small number of children who speak English as an additional language. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am until 6pm for 51 weeks of the year, with the exception of bank holidays. The nursery employs 18 staff to work directly with the children. Of these, three members of staff hold Qualified Teacher Status and 12 hold relevant qualifications at level 3. The nursery provides funded early education for eligible two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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