

The Cottage Nursery

1 Clarendon Road, Eccles, Manchester, Lancashire, M30 9AL



Inspection date	19 May 2016
Previous inspection date	25 March 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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

- Leaders and managers have a clear drive for the ongoing development of the nursery. Staff share the managers' vision for the nursery. They evaluate the quality of the service they provide, taking into account the views of parents and children.
- Staff plan a wide range of exciting and stimulating experiences which is, in the most, well matched to children's abilities. They use children's interests well to engage and motivate them in their learning.
- Staff monitor children's progress carefully. They use the tracking of children's achievements to identify any gaps in their learning. This enables staff to plan activities which help to ensure children make good progress.
- Children develop close, nurturing bonds with their key person. Staff are always on hand to offer praise and gentle reassurance, which helps children to become more confident and self-assured.
- Staff work closely with a range of other professionals to ensure that the needs of all children are very well met.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Systems to monitor professional development are not yet focused on sharing best practice amongst the staff, so that teaching is raised to an outstanding level.
- Occasionally, some staff provide activities which are slightly too challenging for some children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further the monitoring arrangements for staff and embed the systems for sharing best practice that raise teaching to an even higher level
- consistently provide activities which offer a level of challenge which is meticulously matched to children's current levels of development.

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 a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and also took account of their views in written form.

Inspector

Denise Farrington

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff can identify the signs and symptoms of potential abuse and know who to contact should they have any concerns for the well-being of a child in their care. Staff regularly check the environment for possible risk and immediately take steps to ensure all children remain safe. Overall, staff are well supported in their role. Managers observe staff and provide regular opportunities for discussion and staff supervision. Professional development and training opportunities are targeted to further improve the quality of teaching. Managers monitor children's assessments on a regular basis. This ensures that the judgements made about children's progress are accurate and that support required for individual children is quickly sought. Additional funding is effectively used to support improvements in children's outcomes.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide children with a wide range of opportunities across all areas of learning and development. Children make choices about what they would like to play in the well-resourced environments. Staff talk to children as they play and ask questions in order to extend their learning further. For example, children playing outside develop their understanding of heavy and light. They investigate making the buckets on a scale move by adding and taking away sand. Younger children are very well supported to develop their understanding and use of new words. For example, children delight in taking turns to burst balloons filled with water and shout the word 'pop' as the balloons land on the floor. Staff inform parents of their child's progress on a regular basis. Parents share information about what their child can do at home. This information is used to help plan the next steps in children's learning and development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The managers and staff create a very calm and welcoming environment. Much thought has been put into the layout and usage of space, which has had a positive impact on the experiences for all children. Children enjoy their time at nursery. They are well supported to develop their independence skills and are praised when they try to do things for themselves. Staff manage children's behaviour consistently and help them to learn what appropriate behaviour is. Staff support children to manage their own behaviour and make the right decisions. They teach the children about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and provide a range of healthy snacks. Children enjoy regular opportunities to develop their physical skills using the wide range of equipment available outdoors.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are inquisitive and active learners. They are eager to try new experiences and make good use of their knowledge and skills in new situations. Children solve problems and test out their ideas as they play. Children are effectively supported to take the next steps in their development. They are well prepared for the next stage in their learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY280485
Local authority	Salford
Inspection number	1027859
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 3
Total number of places	103
Number of children on roll	91
Name of registered person	Clarendon Cottage School Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP525748
Date of previous inspection	25 March 2013
Telephone number	0161 789 3071

The Cottage Nursery was registered in 2004. The nursery employs 22 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including two with qualified teacher 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.

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