

Caring Kindergartens

Duston St. Lukes Centre, Main Road, Duston, NORTHAMPTON, NN5 6JB



Inspection date	27 September 2016
Previous inspection date	7 October 2013

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

- Leadership is strong and there is a clear motivation to develop. The manager and his team have high expectations. They accurately identify priorities for improvement, such as developing the outside environment to allow for children to move freely between the indoor and outdoor play areas.
- Partnerships with parents are well established. There are good two-way systems for sharing information about children's needs and achievements. Staff keep parents well informed about children's development. Parents are very positive about the nursery and the staff. They comment that their children are happy and make good progress.
- Staff observe and assess what children can do and use the gathered information to good effect. Staff effectively check on children's development over time and promptly identify gaps in children's learning.
- Children show caring attitudes towards each other. Older children learn to manage their behaviour. They take turns and share independently. Younger children receive praise and support for being kind and helpful.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The programme for the professional development of all staff is not yet highly targeted, in order to strengthen the quality of teaching even further.
- Staff do not use every opportunity to help children to develop their independence and self-help skills, in particular at mealtimes.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the programme of professional development for staff so that it is sharply focused on developing an expert knowledge of teaching and learning
- provide more opportunities for children to develop their independence and self-help skills through routines, such as mealtimes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, discussed self-evaluation and viewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small sample of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.

Inspector

Ruth Patel

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team and the majority of staff are well qualified. They use their knowledge and understanding to fully implement the requirements of the early years foundation stage. Staff receive support and guidance from the management team as they participate in meetings, supervision and appraisals. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Managers and staff are fully aware of the procedures that protect children from abuse or neglect. Comprehensive risk assessments effectively ensure that the environment is safe and suitable, and any accidents are dealt with appropriately. There are effective systems in place to track children's ongoing development. The management team regularly analyses this information to ensure all children make good progress in their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of teaching and learning is good. Staff plan a wide range of purposeful activities across all areas of learning. Children of all ages make good progress and show high levels of curiosity, imagination and concentration. Staff teach older children to recognise and write their names and develop an understanding of words and letters. Younger children are engrossed in their play as they explore what happens when cornflour and water are mixed together. Staff support children's mathematical development well as they continually talk about numbers, shape and size and use positional language. Children enjoy the frequent singing and rhyming activities and listen intently to stories staff read.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children build warm and secure bonds with staff and settle well. Staff use a calm and consistent approach to manage children's behaviour. They continually provide children with praise and encouragement, which helps them to feel valued and respected. Staff collect detailed information from parents about their children's routines, interests and aptitudes. They use this information well to ensure that children have their care and learning needs met from the outset. Children thrive in the outdoor areas. They balance on logs, learn to ride vehicles around a track and use their pretend cooking skills in the Forest School kitchen. Children plant vegetables and flowers as they learn about what plants need to grow. They show care and concern for the nursery rabbits.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and development. They initiate their own play as they select their own resources, both indoors and outside, and are developing a positive and enthusiastic attitude towards learning. Staff promote equality and diversity well and children enjoy activities based around cultural festivals and their local community. Children of all abilities, including those who receive funded education and children who speak English as an additional language, are making good progress. They are well prepared for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY462952
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1066913
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	104
Number of children on roll	124
Name of registered person	Caring Kindergartens Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP522306
Date of previous inspection	7 October 2013
Telephone number	01604882241

Caring Kindergartens was registered in 2013. The nursery employs 15 members of childcare staff, 11 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, 4 or 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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