

Eldean Childcare

Duston Eldean Primary School, Main Road, New Duston, Northampton, NN5 6PP



Inspection date	24 November 2016
Previous inspection date	29 November 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

- The management team and staff are highly motivated, enthusiastic and reflective. They regularly review their practice and identify areas for improvement. They welcome parents' opinions and act on them to ensure they continually move forward with their practice.
- There is a relaxed, homely and welcoming environment throughout the pre-school. Children form very close relationships with staff. This contributes towards children feeling safe and emotionally secure.
- Children who have special educational needs or disabilities are supported well and the pre-school works in close partnership with other professionals to ensure consistency.
- Staff know all the children well. They complete regular observations and assessments to identify what children can do and their next steps for learning. Staff use the information to effectively plan learning experiences that promote children's development.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Parents speak highly of the nursery and are kept well informed of all relevant information concerning their child's welfare and learning needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, staff do not provide enough opportunities for children to develop and explore their creativity further during adult-directed activities.
- Although professional development supports good teaching, it is not yet closely focused on raising teaching to the highest level possible.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance and extend the opportunities provided for children to lead their learning and to develop and explore their own creative ideas
- seek professional development opportunities for staff that raise the quality of their teaching even further.

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 pre-school 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 pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Ruth Patel

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The well-qualified staff team provides a happy and welcoming environment. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff have attended safeguarding training and have a good understanding of their role in keeping children safe and knowing what to do if they had a concern about a child's well-being. Rigorous vetting procedures are implemented to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. Managers track children's progress very effectively to help staff plan for children's next steps in learning. This includes monitoring the progress of specific groups of children. Additional funding is used effectively to support children's interests and learning needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children develop key skills. Staff monitor children's progress well. They share this with parents, along with information about their daily activities, to help them support their children's learning at home. Staff provide children with many opportunities to develop physically. For example, older children enjoy their swimming sessions and the younger children delight in building with blocks and using the ride-along toys. Children skilfully manipulate tools, such as pencils and scissors, when making letters to send to Father Christmas. Their literacy skills are developing well. Children learn to write their names and recognise the sounds that letters make. Staff help children to count in planned activities and numbers are displayed for children to see in daily routines, such as at snack time.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy their time at the pre-school and have developed secure attachments to staff. The key-person system is well established and effective. This helps to foster positive relationships with children and their parents. Staff are good role models. They play alongside children, helping them to understand how to share and take turns. They praise positive behaviour which boosts children's self-esteem. As a result, children behave well and learn to be kind to each other. Thoughtfully planned playrooms create an enabling environment for children where they can develop their independence. Snacks are nutritious and children learn to independently manage their lunchboxes at lunchtime. Children readily access the outdoor area for the majority of each session, enjoying the freedom of active play in the fresh air.

Outcomes for children are good

Children of all abilities, including those who receive funded education and children who speak English as an additional language, are making good progress. Children are learning to be independent, for example, by hanging their coats on pegs and washing their hands before snacks without the need for staff prompts. Staff support children's speech and language skills well. Children confidently talk about their play and learning at the pre-school. They are curious and like to ask visitors questions. Children are developing good basic skills in readiness for the next stage in their learning and eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY357555
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1065009
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	47
Name of registered person	Eldean Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP535111
Date of previous inspection	29 November 2013
Telephone number	07898 206467

Eldean Childcare was registered in 2007. The pre-school employs eight members of childcare staff, of whom all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or level 4. The manager holds early years professional status. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 7.50am to 5.30pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The pre-school supports children who speak English as an additional language and those who have special educational needs or disabilities.

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