

Girton Nursery

Camboro Business Park, Oakington Road, Girton, Cambridge, CB3 0QH



Inspection date	22 December 2016
Previous inspection date	7 January 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Partnerships with parents are excellent. Parents say that practitioners genuinely care about their children and are warm and approachable. A high priority is placed on providing parents with detailed feedback and involving them in their children's learning experiences.
- Leaders and managers are ambitious and show a strong drive towards improving the quality of the provision. Self-evaluation is rigorous and takes into account the views of staff, children and parents.
- There is excellent support for vulnerable children and those that show signs of delay. Additional funding is used well to help these children catch up with their peers. Some children make rapid progress from their starting points.
- Children spend plenty of time in the outdoors. They have opportunities to explore woodland and develop a good understanding of acceptable risks. Practitioners encourage children to be out in all weathers, supporting their physical development and overall well-being.
- Children have fun at nursery. They engage well with practitioners and enjoy their involvement in their play. They make friends and learn to play together harmoniously.
- Practitioners make regular and precise assessments of children's development. They use children's interests to plan activities that stimulate and interest them, such as playing pirates for a day.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The monitoring of teaching practice does not yet fully support practitioners to raise children's achievements to an outstanding level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the monitoring of practitioners' practice to deepen their understanding of how children learn, in order to support them in making outstanding progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager. She discussed the nursery's self-evaluation with the manager and two of the directors.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and spoke to practitioners about how they plan for children's progress.
- The inspector looked at the premises and the resources available to the children.
- A range of documents were looked at, including evidence of the suitability of practitioners, training, some policies and procedures, and children's records.
- The inspector discussed safeguarding arrangements and safeguarding training with practitioners, managers and two of the directors.
- Discussions were held with a number of parents and their views expressed in emails, comments and testimonials were taken into account.

Inspector

Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Managers and practitioners are well trained in child protection issues. They have a solid understanding of their responsibilities to keep children safe. Recruitment procedures are thorough and help to ensure anyone working with children is suitable to do so. The nursery has experienced a rapid period of growth, leading to an increase in the number of practitioners employed. Leaders and managers are aware of the varying skills of their new practitioners. However, performance management is not yet fully effective in raising their skills to a consistently outstanding level. Information from the monitoring of children's progress, including groups of children, is used well to identify areas of the provision that need improvement. For example, resources that promote mathematics have been increased to enhance the outcomes for children in this aspect of learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Most practitioners are well qualified and all have a very good understanding of the children they care for. They have a boundless enthusiasm and provide children with positive praise, building their self-esteem. They work closely with parents to maintain a wide knowledge of children's interests and achievements, both at home and in nursery. Activities are well planned and make good use of children's interests. Children excitedly wheel small cars and trucks around a taped roadway. They learn to navigate the course and take turns. Practitioners encourage children to hold their collage pictures up to the light so they can see the glitter twinkle in the sun. Practitioners promote children's understanding of numbers, for example, as they count the skittles they have knocked down.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children form exceedingly close emotional attachments to the people who care for them. Practitioners in all areas of the nursery are kind and attentive. Younger babies are nurtured very well. They keep to their home sleep routines and demonstrate they feel safe and secure. Babies and toddlers smile happily at visitors and welcome appropriate cuddles from their key person. Children are exceptionally well supported when they move between rooms and on to school. Practitioners expertly develop children's self-reliance as they encourage them to look after their personal care needs. Older children are highly confident, for example, as they prepare for outdoor play, serve their own food and decide on their activities.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning. They become interested and motivated learners who are well prepared for school. Children learn about other languages, cultures, religions and lifestyles. They socialise well and demonstrate a good understanding of sharing and turn taking. Children love stories and eagerly point out pictures and words in books. Older children learn to write for a purpose and proudly display their creative work in their art gallery.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY447888
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1065946
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	100
Number of children on roll	130
Name of registered person	HRH Nurseries Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP520591
Date of previous inspection	7 January 2013
Telephone number	01223 233751

Girton Nursery was registered in 2012 and is one of three nurseries owned by HRH Nurseries Ltd. The nursery is open from 7.30am until 6pm all year round, with the exception of bank holidays. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports children who speak English as an additional language. The nursery employs 23 practitioners. The manager holds a relevant qualification at level 5 and 16 practitioners hold qualifications at levels 2, 3 or 4. Two of the directors have qualified teacher status.

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