Community College Play Unit



Carterton Community College, Upavon Way, Carterton, Oxfordshire, OX18 1BU

Inspection date	1 March 2017
Previous inspection date	5 March 2014

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

- Staff provide a broad range of activities to support children's interests and development. All children make good progress relative to their starting capabilities.
- Staff encourage older children's writing and reading skills well in a variety of ways. For example staff plan regular time to help children learn the letters and sounds in their names and children enjoy writing and drawing in their individual writing books.
- Staff treat children fairly and show them kindness and respect. They encourage children to share, take turns and talk about their feelings. Children are confident and motivated to learn.
- The manager makes sure children's safety is a priority. For example, the manger considers the needs of individual children and the differing levels of staff knowledge in her detailed risk assessments. Staff follow the agreed policies and procedures well.
- The manager and owner use their accurate self-evaluation and checks on children's progress to ensure good outcomes for all children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently extend the involvement and learning of younger children who are involved in the same activities as older children.
- Staff do not routinely collect detailed information from parents about children's skills and abilities on entry, to assess children's starting points as quickly and as fully as possible.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the learning and involvement of all children engaged in the same activity, particularly for younger children
- gather more in-depth information from parents of children's abilities on entry to precisely plan for their learning at the earliest opportunity and share the information on children's progress more regularly.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and staff interactions with children, and viewed the toys, resources and equipment.
- The inspector held discussions with the managers, staff and children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector checked evidence of safeguarding practices; staff recruitment, training and professional development; the self-evaluation process; and how staff assess children's progress.

Inspector

Victoria Weir

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager ensures all staff are fully aware of the child protection procedures to follow to help keep children safe. She provides staff with many different professional development opportunities that strengthen their practice and knowledge. For example, she monitors the quality of their teaching and provides regular feedback on their interactions with children. The manager effectively checks children's progress in order to identify any emerging gaps in their learning or in staff practice. Staff work well with parents to meet children's needs. The manager involves her reflective staff, parents and other professionals in identifying the weaknesses and strengths of the provision to make sustained improvements. For example the manager acts on advice from the local authority and has met the recommendations set at the last inspection to improve children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff regularly check children's achievements and use this information to plan for their next steps in learning. They give parents ideas on how to support their children's learning at home. Children are able to explore a wide range of resources which quickly captures their curiosity. Staff support children's communication and language well. For example, staff taught children a new word, 'syringe', as they pretended to be doctors. They encouraged children to answer questions and develop their conversations as they shared their own experiences of going to the doctors. Staff help children make links in their learning and follow their ideas in a variety of ways. For example, children enjoyed listening to the story about three little pigs and then built pretend houses from bricks and sticks outside.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff ensure children's emotional and physical needs are well met. For example, they demonstrated sensitive expertise when helping less-confident children to extend their physical skills and take appropriate risks, such as when learning to climb. Staff encourage children's independence skills from an early age. For example, children receive encouragement to persevere with tasks they find tricky, such as dressing themselves.

Outcomes for children are good

Two-year-old children learn the basic skills to help them prepare for their future learning. Older children are well prepared for their move to school. All children help prepare their own snacks and manage their own personal hygiene routines. They develop their interest in the world around them. For example, they enjoy walks in the local area and chat about their community. They develop good mathematical skills. For example, children learn how to count and use mathematical language.

Setting details

Inspection number

Unique reference number 134471

Local authority Oxfordshire

Type of provision Sessional provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

1068493

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 2 - 8

Total number of places 40

Number of children on roll 24

Name of registered person Magdalen Davies

Registered person unique

reference number

RP511921

Date of previous inspection 5 March 2014

Telephone number 01993 844071

Community College Play Unit registered in 1978. It operates in the grounds of the Community College in Carterton. The provision operates for 51 weeks of each year. Children can attend before and after school, from 7.30am until 8.30am and from 3pm until 6pm respectively. There is a holiday play scheme, which offers full-time and part-time day care. There is a playgroup for children aged from two to four years that is open from 9am until 12pm each weekday during term time. There are eight members of staff, including the manager. Of these, six staff have recognised early years qualifications, including the manager who holds a foundation degree in early years.

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