

Kiddi Caru Nursery

Hythe Quay, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JB



Inspection date

18 April 2017

Previous inspection date

27 May 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The monitoring of the quality of the nursery, including staff performance, is not rigorous enough to ensure improvement.
- The quality of teaching is variable within the nursery. Staff do not consistently provide experiences that are appropriate to individual children's age and stage of development. As a result, children do not always make the good progress in their learning.
- Planning and assessment are not fully developed to consistently reflect the individual needs of all children attending the nursery and to help staff monitor their progress.
- Occasionally, staff fail to effectively monitor children's intake of food during mealtimes.

It has the following strengths

- The provider has established robust recruitment procedures to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children.
- All children benefit from regular outdoor learning to promote their physical development.
- Staff establish strong and trusting relationships with parents. Parents express high levels of satisfaction with the care their children receive.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage the provider must:

	Due Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ develop the arrangements for staff supervision to ensure there is a well-established programme of professional development to coach and support staff in order to improve the quality of teaching 	16/05/2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ improve teaching strategies to ensure that staff consistently provide children with appropriate levels of challenge in line with their current stage of development 	16/05/2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure that observation, assessment and planning for children are focused on their interests and next steps, so that all children are effectively supported and challenged to make good progress given their age, abilities and starting points. 	16/05/2017

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

- make better use of opportunities to support children's understanding of healthy eating.

Inspection activities

- The inspectors observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspectors carried out joint observations with the manager and deputy manager.
- The inspectors took account of the views of children and staff spoken to on the day of inspection.
- The inspectors held a meeting with the manager and deputy manager. They looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working at the nursery.
- The inspectors spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jemma Hudson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. Robust systems for checking the suitability of staff are implemented. Staff are appropriately trained and understand the nursery's safeguarding policy. They are aware of the designated person within the nursery and know who to make a referral to if they are concerned about a child's welfare. The management team has developed some systems to monitor staff performance. However, these are not rigorous enough to support staff to improve the quality of their teaching. Feedback from parents is positive. They comment on how well their children have settled at nursery and the progress they are making. The management team understands the importance of partnership working and has successfully developed links with a number of external agencies and other professionals.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The quality of teaching is variable. Staff understand that children learn through play and they routinely observe children's development. However, they do not consistently use this information to plan activities that meet children's individual needs. Weaknesses in assessment mean planned activities do not always provide appropriate levels of challenge. As a result, staff sometimes fail to engage children or sustain their interest. In spite of these weaknesses, children enjoy their time at the nursery and access a stimulating range of resources covering all areas of learning. For example, all children benefit from regular free-flow access to the well-resourced outdoor area.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children enjoy their time at the nursery. They settle quickly and develop warm relationships with their key person and other nursery staff. Staff ensure that they collect detailed information from parents when children first start at the nursery. Consequently, children's continuity of care is well supported. Children behave appropriately because staff are effective role models. They routinely praise positive behaviour and children's achievements. This helps boost children's self-esteem and supports their emotional well-being. Staff ensure that children have plenty of opportunities to exercise and play outside. This supports children's understanding of healthy lifestyles. However, at times staff do not effectively monitor children's intake of food during mealtimes. This means that children are not consistently supported to make healthy food choices.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children are happy, settled and motivated to learn. Younger children enjoy listening to a range of stories read by enthusiastic staff, and older children are beginning to write their names. They are developing some skills in preparation for the next stage of their learning. However, weaknesses in the teaching and assessment processes mean that children are not fully supported to make good progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY229919
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1087877
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	103
Number of children on roll	152
Name of registered person	The Childcare Corporation Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP902737
Date of previous inspection	27 May 2014
Telephone number	01206 871700

Kiddi Caru Nursery was registered in 2002 and is managed by a private company. The nursery employs 33 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualifications at level 6, two hold level 5, 20 hold level 3, and three hold level 2. The nursery opens 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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