

Dappledown House Nursery

The Old School, Main Street, Honington, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG32 2PG



Inspection date	30 May 2017
Previous inspection date	17 November 2016

	This inspection:	Good	2
The quality and standards of the early years provision			
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 manager has made many improvements since the last inspection. She has worked with parents, staff and the local authority to bring about changes to increase opportunities for children.
- Staff are deployed effectively in the playrooms and are supported well by the manager. They promote children's learning and development, helping them to make good progress overall.
- Staff share information about children's learning with parents. They invite parents to contribute to their child's learning and to join their child's play in the nursery.
- Children are invited to attend settling-in sessions with their parents before starting. Staff find out information from parents to help meet children's medical, care and learning needs.
- Children demonstrate that they are emotionally secure and form strong attachments with staff. For example, babies give staff good eye contact when listening to them.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not challenge children as far as possible during activities to help them progress more rapidly in their learning.
- Some aspects of the monitoring of the performance of staff are not yet fully embedded to raise the quality of teaching to the highest possible level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- plan activities even more effectively to ensure that all children are highly challenged, increasing the potential for them to make more rapid progress in their learning
- sharpen the focus on the monitoring of staff's practice to further promote consistently high-quality teaching, in order to help children make the best possible progress in their learning.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Hayley Ruane

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff know where to report any concerns about children's safety. The manager provides staff with opportunities to review their practice and identify further training. Recent training has helped staff to support the transition process for children when they move on to school. The manager works well with the schools that children move on to. She shares information about children's learning and invites teachers into the nursery to observe them. This united approach supports children well. The manager monitors the progress made by groups of children. This helps her to liaise with key persons to support children's good progress. Self-evaluation is effective and the manager drives improvements forward.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff help babies to develop their understanding and speaking skills. They ask babies to choose objects from a basket and begin to sing nursery rhymes to represent these. Staff effectively observe and monitor children's progress and identify what they need to learn next. They plan activities based on children's interests, such as fairy stories. Children develop good hand-to-eye coordination. For example, they stir together a mixture of oats and water to make porridge. Staff play alongside children and talk about it being, 'Too hot' and, 'Just right'. Staff encourage older children to develop their knowledge of mathematical concepts. For example, they ask children to sort, count and compare quantities of objects.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff encourage older children to do things for themselves. They teach them to wash their hands before snack and to pour their own drinks. Children are provided with a range of healthy foods. They help staff to grow fruit and vegetables in the allotment. They harvest the fruit and use it in their play or for snack. Children behave well. Older children set their own rules and staff give them gentle reminders to promote positive behaviour, for instance, to walk inside. Staff encourage children to manage conflict for themselves. They provide children with sand timers to help them to share and take turns.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those in receipt of funding, make good progress in their development. They learn key skills in readiness for their move on to school. Older children demonstrate good social skills. They sit together during snack time and confidently talk to staff about what they are eating. Babies are confident to explore their surroundings. They demonstrate their physical skills as they hold onto furniture and pull themselves up to standing.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY450279
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	1078805
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	22
Name of registered person	Pauline Morgan
Registered person unique reference number	RP516335
Date of previous inspection	17 November 2016
Telephone number	01400 250358

Dappledown House Nursery registered in 2012. There are 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round, except for one week at Christmas and bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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