

Camelot Day Nursery

Camelot Day Nursery, 79-81 Moulsham Street, CHELMSFORD, CM2 0JD



Inspection date

31 May 2017

Previous inspection date

2 May 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff place emphasis on building exceptionally secure bonds with children and their families. Children settle swiftly into nursery life, including children who speak English as an additional language. They feel reassured that there is always someone familiar nearby to offer them genuine affection and support.
- Staff work particularly well with other professionals to improve outcomes for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. They seize opportunities to complete specialist programmes which helps to enrich their understanding of how best to support children's social and communication needs.
- Parents have embraced the nursery's recently introduced online assessment system. They are keen to share information about children's achievements at home and readily attend events and information sessions at the nursery.
- Staff provide children with effective support to help them explore, investigate and follow their own learning. Their strong teaching skills help children to make good progress from their starting points.
- The nursery is led by a passionate and reflective manager. The manager communicates well with staff, children and parents to identify ways to improve outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the management team has a system to monitor the progress that different groups of children are making, this is not yet fully embedded.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor the progress of different groups of children more precisely, in order to help all children make as much progress as possible.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views expressed in questionnaires.

Inspector

Sarah Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. There is a strong expectation that all staff attend ongoing training relating to safeguarding children matters. Staff fully understand what they must do in the event of a concern about the welfare of a child. There is a programme of ongoing supervision, training and professional development provided for the staff. This results in motivated and well-qualified staff who promote children's learning well. For example, staff receive training to develop their teaching skills in extending children's speech and language. Effective links are in place with the adjoining school to help ensure that children experience a smooth transition to school. Parents' views are gathered during parent forum meetings and are taken forward to inform plans for improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff promptly notice gaps in development and put clear plans in place to help individual children catch up. With the support of skilled staff, children learn to concentrate and listen carefully when sharing books in larger groups. Babies are keen to explore baskets filled with natural objects. Staff model different ways to handle these resources and babies are eager to try for themselves. Pre-school children have good opportunities to develop their physical dexterity. They use scoops and tongs to pick up small marshmallows floating in water. Children independently draw and name different shapes. Staff challenge them to find the same shapes during a walk around the outdoor garden. This helps to enhance their mathematical skills in preparation for school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities experience excellent levels of direct support from their key person. Staff go the extra mile to follow children's medical routines meticulously well and ensure they are fully included in activities. Behaviour is remarkably positive. Staff are consistent in teaching children about right and wrong, and offer ongoing praise. Children eagerly seek out their key person to share their achievements and their contribution is highly valued. Parents often request healthy recipes from the nursery's well-qualified chef to cook for their children at home. Children purposefully enrich their awareness of healthy practices, such as tooth brushing. They draw on laminated pictures of teeth and use toothbrushes to clean away the marks.

Outcomes for children are good

Children, including those who receive funded early education, make consistently good progress and develop the skills needed for school. Children make strong gains in their confidence and are keen to tackle new experiences. They explore letters and sounds, and apply this knowledge to writing the letters in their names. Two-year-olds delight in taking on responsibility for tasks and demonstrate excellent skills in cooperating with others.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY427876
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1088120
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	108
Number of children on roll	210
Name of registered person	Camelot Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP905546
Date of previous inspection	2 May 2014
Telephone number	01245349397

Camelot Nursery registered in 2011. The nursery employs 45 members of childcare staff. Of these, 31 staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above. The nursery opens on Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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