The Cottage Private Day Nursery



76 - 78 Bedford Street, DERBY, DE22 3PD

Inspection date	14 August 2017
Previous inspection date	14 August 2013

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and ma	nagement	Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assess	sment	Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and v	welfare	Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The management team meticulously monitors how well individual children and different groups of children achieve in their learning and development. They identify any gaps in children's progress and these are swiftly addressed so that children catch up quickly.
- Staff make astute observations of children's learning. They use this to identify children's interests and support meticulous planning of engaging activities.
- Self-evaluation superbly captures the views of staff, children and parents. The management team uses this information to precisely identify any gaps in practice and draw up plans for improvement. Parents hold the setting in extremely high regard and give high written and verbal praise.
- Staff have exceptionally strong partnerships with parents. They value the parents' role and keep them fully informed about their children's progress. Staff provide ideas and resources for parents to help support children's learning at home.
- The support in place for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and children who have English as an additional language is exceptional. Detailed intervention plans, close monitoring and effective multi-agency working ensure all children make excellent progress from their starting point.
- Children display excellent behaviour throughout the nursery and show kindness towards friends as they are playing. Inclusion of everyone is central and respect, empathy and equality are evident throughout the setting.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

 continue to enhance the highly effective programme of professional development in order to consistently drive and maintain the already outstanding quality of teaching.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the deputy manager.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery management team. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working at the nursery.

Inspector

Teresa Lester

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff display an excellent knowledge of the child protection procedures to follow should they suspect a child is at risk of harm. They are vigilant in monitoring children's safety and well-being through highly robust risk assessments. A tailored programme of training and close monitoring of staff practice enables the inspirational management team to continually raise standards and achieve higher outcomes for children. The management team fully understands the role continuous professional development has in improving and maintaining staff practice to the highest level.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The highly qualified and experienced staff have expert knowledge of how children learn. They use this knowledge to successfully challenge and inspire each child to develop new skills. Children demonstrate deep involvement in exploratory play. They relish the opportunity and challenge of melting large blocks of ice. Staff skilfully help children to think and investigate by asking them incisive questions. Children experiment as they mix ingredients together to make dough. They observe the effect that the different ingredients have on the consistency of the mixture, working together to solve the problem of how to make the dough less sticky.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff offer an inviting and homely environment with a strong family feel. Children have very close bonds with their key person. They greet the staff and their friends with enthusiasm and hugs on arrival. Children develop an excellent understanding of healthy lifestyles. At mealtimes they confidently discuss the benefits of healthy foods. Staff have high expectations of children to be independent. Children enjoy preparing their own snacks, serving their own meals and washing their pots. Children are eager and excited as they freely access the outdoor area. They are learning to control their bodies and move in a variety of ways. Children are beginning to develop a sense of their place in the world, as they enjoy trips out in the community and visits to the nursery from various professionals who help them.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children develop the necessary skills for their move on to the next stage of their learning. Children are confident, highly motivated and eager to learn. They thrive when challenged and delight in solving their own problems. Children learn to read their own names and link letters to sounds. Children show an exceptional interest in books, excitedly use props and puppets to retell their favourite stories and sing songs. Children confidently match, count and name a range of shapes. They are developing a growing awareness of information and communication technology as they enjoy using simple programs on a interactive whiteboard. Children are skilled at managing risk for themselves. At mealtimes they confidently tell staff that the dinner is hot, pointing out the food has steam coming from it.

Setting details

Unique reference number 206103

Local authority Derby, City of

Inspection number 1063669

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 2 - 5

Total number of places 68

Number of children on roll 78

Name of registered person The Cottage Day Nurseries Limited

Registered person unique

reference number

RP517076

Date of previous inspection 14 August 2013

Telephone number 01332 346500

The Cottage Private Day Nursery registered in 1990. The nursery employs 17 members of childcare staff. Of these, 14 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, two hold early years degrees and one has early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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