

Cambridge Day Nursery

67a Milton Road, Cambridge, CB4 1XA



Inspection date

17 August 2017

Previous inspection date

29 July 2013

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

- The experienced management team works hard together to improve the quality of the nursery. They have high expectations and set targets that continuously develop the provision.
- The well-qualified team of staff is ambitious and demonstrates a good vision for the nursery. They support children's learning well.
- Staff plan a wealth of stimulating and challenging learning activities based on children's prior learning as well as their current interests. They ensure they provide good opportunities for children to make good progress.
- Children are warmly welcomed into the nursery. They have strong bonds with their key person. They quickly settle into the nursery and gain self-confidence.
- Partnerships with parents are effective. There is regular communication and information sharing between parents and staff to ensure children's care and learning needs are met. Parents speak very highly of the nursery provision and the quality of care given to their children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The performance management of staff is not sharply focused enough on continuing to raise the quality of teaching even higher.
- On occasion, staff working with babies do not plan a range of activities in the outdoor area to help babies achieve their full potential.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the existing arrangements for staff supervision, to raise the quality of teaching to an even higher level
- plan the range of resources available to babies in the outdoor area more precisely to broaden their learning experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a planned activity and jointly evaluated this with a senior member of staff.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including accident records and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to some parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector conducted meetings with the senior nursery manager to discuss management issues, safeguarding children, staff training and self-evaluation.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.

Inspector

Jane Osburn

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a secure knowledge of how to keep children safe. They attend regular training and are aware of the procedures for identifying and responding to any concerns about a child's welfare. Recruitment procedures are strong and the manager checks the suitability of staff. Staff receive good levels of support. They have regular supervision and team meetings. Training opportunities also help them to further develop their practice. This has a positive effective on the outcomes for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of teaching is consistently good. Staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They follow children's ideas and interests when planning activities. Children are engaged and happy. They become fully involved in the wide range of stimulating activities and access resources easily that support their learning. For example, they discover frogs in the pond in the forest school and this captures the children's attention. Staff support this enthusiasm for learning through close investigation, research and communication. Staff skilfully adapt their teaching strategies to support different age groups. They successfully promote children's communication and language skills. For example, staff use sign language alongside words to support babies' emerging vocabulary. Staff use descriptive words within more complex sentences to extend older children's vocabulary. Children who speak English as an additional language are supported effectively. They make good progress in their language development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children play well together. Staff are good role models. They consistently encourage children to use good manners and explain to children the importance of sharing and being kind to others. Opportunities for children to develop physical skills are strong. The outdoor facilities are easily accessible, offering a range of exciting activities that children thoroughly enjoy. Children of all ages are able to make choices as to where they want to play and independently move between the indoor and outdoor provision. The forest school provides additional rich outdoor experiences. Staff provide nutritious food that children enjoy and mealtimes are organised effectively to promote their independence. Children take part in celebrations of different cultures. They learn about differences in the wider world.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, make good progress from their starting points. Children are motivated and eager to join in with learning experiences. Older children independently manage their own needs. They are interested in writing their names and enjoy solving mathematical problems. Children gain the necessary skills needed to help them prepare for their future learning and their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY308230
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1064739
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	82
Number of children on roll	92
Name of registered person	Cambridge Associates In Management Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP524790
Date of previous inspection	29 July 2013
Telephone number	01223 566323

Cambridge Day Nursery registered in 2005. The setting opens from Monday to Friday, 7.30am until 6.30pm for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery employs 22 members of staff. Of these, one holds an early years degree, three staff hold childcare qualifications at level 5, 10 at level 3 and two at level 2. Two staff are trained in forest school.

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