

Caring Kindergartens

Owl Close, Moulton Park, Northampton, Northamptonshire, NN3 6HZ



Inspection date	26 October 2017
Previous inspection date	17 March 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		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff work very well with parents to ensure good continuity for children. They encourage parents to contribute ideas to the planning of activities and they involve them in the assessment of children's learning. Parents receive regular progress updates.
- Children follow their own ideas and staff adapt activities well to consider children's interests. All children make good progress relative to their starting points.
- Children enjoy exploring the particularly stimulating outdoor environment. Staff effectively use children's play outside to help them make links in their learning. For example, as children explore the climbing wall they learn to use a measuring tape, record numbers and learn how to climb safely.
- Staff sensitively care for children's emotional and physical needs. Children are happy.
- The new manager and leadership team work very well together in their commitment to continually improve the provision.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff working with children under three-years-old do not always successfully share amongst themselves the detailed information around some children's next steps and planned outcomes for some activities. Staff sometimes miss opportunities to help children achieve them.
- Staff do not extend opportunities for some children to use their home languages to help enrich their communication and language skills further and to further promote other children's understanding of diversity.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- share intended outcomes for activities and children's next steps more fully to help staff working with children extend their support on what children need to learn next
- extend children's opportunities to develop and use their home languages in play and learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including risk assessments, staff suitability checks, children's observation, assessment and planning records, and documentation linked to managing children's progress.
- The inspector spoke with members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held meetings with the managers and leadership team.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of staff practice and discussed monitoring and professional development.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection and from written feedback.

Inspector

Victoria Weir

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The leadership and management team ensures all staff have a good understanding of safeguarding procedures and child protection issues. Staff know the process to follow to whistle blow or if an allegation is made against any member of staff. Recruitment procedures robustly help ensure staff are suitable. The manager uses supervision to ensure staff continue to be suitable and to help them improve their practice. For example, she gives staff advice on how to improve activities for children. Staff undertake training to improve their qualifications and they develop knowledge of child development. Staff effectively implement risk assessments to help keep children safe. The manager works closely with her staff team and tracks children's progress to identify and address any gaps in their development. The manager considers the views of parents, staff and her senior leadership team to target improvements. Parents are extremely positive about the provision.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff engage children well. Staff help babies to explore their surroundings and gain basic skills. For instance, they help them learn to walk, use first words and feed themselves. The staff working with two-year-old children are particularly skilled at supporting children's imaginative play. For example, children delight at joining in retelling a favourite story using props. They explore many different materials using their senses and make marks in different ways, such as when using spoons in water and oats. Staff in the pre-school successfully focus support on helping children gain the skills needed for school. For example, they use spontaneous moments in children's play to introduce new learning, such as, counting and number recognition. Pre-school children benefit from daily opportunities to practise their writing skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff promptly respond to children's needs. They nurture babies and help them settle well. They provide cuddles when needed. Staff manage children's behaviour well and they keep children healthy. For example, all children learn to take turns and eat well-balanced meals. They have many opportunities to be physically active as they use the range of large and small equipment outdoors. Staff help children develop an understanding of safety. For example, older children explain how they wait for everyone to move out the way before they can use the slide. Overall, children are learning to respect each other's similarities and differences.

Outcomes for children are good

Children have fun as they learn. All children gain the necessary skills to prepare them for the next stage in their learning, including school. Children learn to be confident communicators. They create, imagine and think as they play. Children seek out others to share and develop experiences. They demonstrate good levels of attention and they persevere in their learning well. Children learn to be independent.

Setting details

Unique reference number	220128
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1087667
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	72
Number of children on roll	55
Name of registered person	Caring Kindergartens Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP522306
Date of previous inspection	17 March 2014
Telephone number	01604 499643

Caring Kindergartens registered in 1996. The nursery is situated in the Moulton Park area of Northampton. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff, all of whom hold an appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. This includes the manager and another member of staff, who hold level 6. 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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