

Carousel Day Nursery

32 Thynne Road, Billericay, Essex, CM11 2HH



Inspection date	26 October 2017
Previous inspection date	29 October 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 provider ensures rigorous recruitment procedures are implemented, this helps to ensure all staff are suitable to work with children. She implements a thorough induction and mentoring programme to help new staff swiftly understand their role and responsibilities within the team.
- The manager regularly monitors children's progress and uses this information to improve outcomes for children. This includes the progress different groups of children make. The manager and staff use this information to swiftly close any potential gaps in children's learning.
- Staff provide stimulating learning environments. They carefully set up exciting activities. Children are eager to explore the different materials and textures. Staff help children to make good progress with their speech and language development and they use clear descriptive words as children play.
- Partnership working with parents is successful. Children are visited at home by their key person before they start to attend, and they gain in-depth information on what children can already do. Staff maintain an ongoing two-way flow of communication with parents about their children's learning and daily activities to assist in continuity of their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The provider's procedures to supervise staff's practice are not sharply focused on raising their teaching skills to the highest possible levels.
- At times, staff do not support children to extend their curiosity and interests through their play and exploration.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the arrangements for the professional development of staff to help them raise their quality of teaching to the highest level
- make more effective use of the good opportunities available for children to develop and extend their curiosity.

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 at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a clear knowledge and understanding of the procedures to follow if they have concerns about children in their care. The manager ensures staff are kept updated about safeguarding. For example, she checks their knowledge of child protection policies and supports their attendance at relevant training. Staff have opportunities to develop some aspects of their knowledge and skills, such as by attending early years exhibitions. They talk positively of the impact this has on their practice. For example, staff have enhanced their environments by adding more natural resources. They also now provide activities for the older children to help them to understand risk and develop skills to keep themselves safe as they play.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff regularly complete a range of observations to identify how children are developing and link their interests to their next steps in learning. For example, staff teach children about the wider world when they show an interest in vehicles and roads. Children engage well in drawing lines to represent a road on a large piece of cardboard. They talk about what they might see on a journey. Staff encourage them to find extra resources to add to their play, such as ducks to go on the pond they have drawn. Children of all ages have many opportunities to engage in imaginative play. Outdoors, staff set up an area with dolls and accessories. Babies and toddlers enjoy wrapping dolls in blankets and cuddling them. They show how they are beginning to understand space as they successfully push their pushchairs around other equipment.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and settled and demonstrate a strong sense of belonging. They follow the daily routines with confidence. Pre-school children thrive with the responsibility of being the daily helper. They confidently talk about what their role entails and how they help the staff and their friends. Staff help to promote children's good health. They ensure that children have regular opportunities to enjoy and learn about the benefits of fresh air and exercise. Children show their good physical skills as they steer bicycles and negotiate their way round the play area. Children are provided with healthy foods at meal and snack times and they are learning how to attend to their own care needs.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make consistently good progress for their age and stage of development. They show high levels of concentration and positive attitudes to learning. They confidently lead their own play and encourage their friends to join in. Babies learn how to press buttons to make toys work. Toddler show their good understanding of space and shape and they independently complete puzzles. Children correctly name shapes as they play with dough. They show their interest in learning about the natural world and question staff about the rings they can see on a piece of wood. Children gain important skills, such as writing their own name, which support them in readiness for their next stage of learning and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	402030
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1064148
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	31
Number of children on roll	65
Name of registered person	Carousel Day Nursery Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP523878
Date of previous inspection	29 October 2013
Telephone number	01277 632362

Carousel Day Nursery registered in 1992. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff, 10 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and level 3. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 7pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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