

Gamlingay Day Nursery

Gamlingay Community Eco Hub, Stocks Lane, Gamlingay, SG19 3JR



Inspection date	16 January 2018
Previous inspection date	9 February 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 new manager is skilled in evaluating the nursery and prioritising actions. She works well in partnership with staff to implement practical and sustainable improvements. This positive approach has supported the significant development of the nursery since the last inspection.
- Staff are supported well in completing training and putting their new knowledge into practice. They now offer children additional opportunities that aid them in using everyday resources creatively and imaginatively.
- All children make good progress. Improved assessment and planning procedures ensure that staff now offer them exciting play opportunities. These reflect children's interests and offer them further challenge.
- Staff now work well with parents and support them in extending their children's learning. Parents report that they have seen a marked improvement in the nursery. They appreciate the good communication, which ensures that they know what their children have been doing, and can update staff on the progress they are making at home.
- Children learn how to participate in their community and this supports their awareness of wider society. For example, children of all ages work together to create artwork to enter into appropriate categories of the local art competition.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The nursery does not work as effectively as possible with local schools to develop a detailed knowledge of the needs of children attending the out-of-school care.
- Children are not always offered as many opportunities as possible that support their physical play when they choose to play indoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the partnerships with local schools to further support children attending the out-of-school care
- enhance the opportunities for children to be physically active when they choose to play indoors.

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 completed a joint observation with the manager. She talked with staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and deputy manager. She looked at relevant documentation, discussed the nursery's self-evaluation and saw evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Kelly-Anne Eyre

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager uses her qualification well to offer staff effective supervision that enables them to develop their practice. She ensures that staff working with the youngest children attend appropriate training so that they understand and efficiently meet the needs of this age group. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have completed training so that they fully understand possible threats to children's welfare and know how to report any concerns as soon as they arise. The manager ensures that staff understand how to implement first-aid procedures, further promoting children's well-being. She monitors children's progress, quickly noting any weaker areas and taking action to address these. The manager understands children's needs and makes good use of additional funding to support their development. She has successfully addressed all actions from the last inspection. Her thorough evaluation supports her in continuing to improve the nursery.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use children's interests as a way of developing their understanding. Children's interest in telling the time is extended as they make block prints. They encircle the patterns and divide these, talking about halves and quarters and relating this to the clock face. Children enjoy many opportunities to explore and experiment. They use their senses as they play with fresh fruit, wood sections, mint and spices. They describe the scents and note the changing appearance of the fruit as they use their hands and a pestle and mortar to squash this. When children note that the juice has stained the wood, staff introduce paint brushes. Children experiment further and develop their early writing skills as they paint with the juice. Children attending the out-of-school care are offered play opportunities that support their skills for learning and these are well balanced with opportunities to relax and socialise with their friends.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff use the key-person system well to obtain information from parents about children's needs and routines. They then use this to inform the daily routine and to help children settle. Children quickly build secure bonds with staff, readily including them in their play. Staff support children in understanding how to keep themselves safe and healthy. They explain daily procedures, such as why they need to clean the tables before eating, and talk with children about road safety, involving them in making illustrations to support this. Children enjoy discussing their play and talk with staff about what else they would like to do. These opportunities help build children's positive attitudes and confidence. Children follow the good example set by staff and show care and concern for one another.

Outcomes for children are good

Staff support children well so that they make good progress and develop essential skills in readiness for school. Children learn to review their work and understand how they are learning. For example, they work with staff to make books that record their play experiences. Children thoroughly enjoy looking through these books, fondly remembering past activities and noting how they have developed and changed.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY444564
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1085284
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 - 10
Total number of places	65
Number of children on roll	71
Name of registered person	Davidson-Roberts Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP911128
Date of previous inspection	9 February 2017
Telephone number	01767 651462

Gamlingay Day Nursery registered in 2012. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 2 and five hold qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Thursday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The out-of-school club opens from Monday to Thursday during term time. Sessions are from 7.30am to 9am and from 3pm to 6pm. There is also a holiday club that runs during some school holidays as needed, with sessions from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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