Blackberry House Day Nursery (Peterborough)



Park Farm Crescent, Stanground, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, PE2 8XA

Inspection date	5 February 2018
Previous inspection date	30 March 2016

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children form strong attachments with their key person. Babies and toddlers seek them out purposefully for cuddles and reassurance when needed. Staff make clear their expectations for children's behaviour, which helps them to respect boundaries and respond positively to others.
- There are positive relationships in place with parents. Staff give parents a comprehensive daily account of their children's time at the nursery. Parents receive regular information about their children's progress through meetings throughout the year. They are welcomed into the nursery through stay and play sessions.
- Staff use clear strategies to support and extend children's communication and language skills. Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities receive targeted support. Staff use sign language effectively to support communication with younger children and those who speak English as an additional language.
- The management team and all staff show a strong commitment to the continued development of the nursery. The views of parents, staff and children are valued when evaluating the practice.

It is not yet outstanding because:

■ Sometimes, staff miss opportunities to further organise some large group activities to enable younger or less confident children to fully join in.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

 review and develop further the organisation of some large group activities to enable younger or less confident children to fully join in

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 to staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery owner and manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Carly Mooney

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are knowledgeable about the action they would take if they had concerns about children or other adults in the nursery. The management team undertakes rigorous recruitment procedures to help ensure that all staff are suitable for their role. Staff are required to complete a thorough induction to ensure they are aware of their roles and responsibilities. There are effective systems in place to monitor staff performance and ensure that any underperformance is quickly addressed. Staff are supported to continue their professional development to extend their knowledge and skills. Children's progress both individually and as specified groups is consistently monitored and analysed. The manager evaluates how to spend additional funding effectively to directly benefit children's learning and experiences.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff consistently observe children in their play and plan activities to support their development needs and interests. They know the children in their care well. Staff generally provide good support to children as they play. Children are provided with sensory play opportunities. Babies explore flour with their hands and brushes, while older children make marks in shaving foam. Children enjoy exploring a natural environment. They show curiosity and ask questions about a worm they have found in the mud. Children watch the worm closely. Staff encourage them to draw a picture of the worm to compare. They talk about its features and size and learn how to carefully hold the worm so as not to harm it.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are kind and responsive to children. They are knowledgeable regarding children's family backgrounds and individual needs. Staff work closely with parents at the beginning to gather essential information about children to help them settle. Staff praise and encourage children for their achievements to help raise their self-esteem. Birthdays are celebrated with singing and cake, which helps children to feel special and valued. Outdoor play opportunities are plentiful in the stimulating garden. Children are physically active. They learn to balance as they walk across a thin beam and enjoy participating in organised sport activities from specialised agencies. Children enjoy nutritious homecooked meals and healthy snacks that take account of their dietary needs and preferences. Staff are well deployed to ensure that children are continuously supervised.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning given their starting points and capabilities. Children develop many skills needed to help prepare them for the next stage of their education, such as their self-care skills. Children enjoy looking at books. The older children eagerly join in with familiar phrases during whole-group activities. Children demonstrate good mathematical skills. They confidently count beyond 10, sort objects into quantities and learn simple calculations.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY451143

Local authority Peterborough

Inspection number 1122927

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 0 - 6

Total number of places 100

Number of children on roll 110

Name of registered person

Blackberries Childcare (Peterborough) Limited

Registered person unique

reference number

RP535476

Date of previous inspection 30 March 2016

Telephone number 01733 566700

Blackberry House Day Nursery (Peterborough) registered in 2013. The nursery employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, 15 hold appropriate early years qualifications ranging from level 2 to 6. The manager holds early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round except for one week at Christmas. Sessions are from 7am until 7pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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