

Clarence House Cambridge

Old Church Hall, Green End Road, Cambridge, Cambs, CB4 1RW



Inspection date

13 June 2018

Previous inspection date

22 January 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 manager has taken prompt action to address the concerns raised at the last inspection. The manager and her staff have worked closely with the local authority to raise standards and improve the quality of practice. Effective risk assessments are in place and staff are vigilant about promoting children's safety and good health at all times.
- Staff develop strong partnerships with parents. They regularly share information about children's progress and how parents can help children's ongoing learning at home. Parents are positive about the nursery and believe their children's needs are well met. They state that their children thoroughly enjoy their time at nursery.
- Children make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff establish secure and trusting relationships with the children from the start. They give children lots of praise and encouragement. This helps children build good levels of self-esteem.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, staff allow some children to distract others during group activities resulting in some children not having the same opportunities to participate.
- At times, staff do not manage lunchtime routines effectively to ensure all children remain engaged.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the good teaching skills further to enable all children to fully participate in group activities
- review the organisation of lunchtime routines so that all children remain engaged.

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

Inspector

Gail Warnes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager and her team are committed to raising standards in provision and demonstrate a strong capacity to improve. Safeguarding is effective. Staff confidently fulfil their role to protect children from harm. They know what to do should they have any concerns about a child's welfare. The manager implements robust recruitment procedures to help assure the suitability of adults working with children. She provides new staff members with effective induction to help them understand their role and responsibilities with targeted training and support to help develop their skills and knowledge. Staff receive regular supervisory meetings which help to successfully improve practice. They share new ideas from training they attend which is quickly embedded into practice. For instance, staff adapt practice to help children who speak English as an additional language settle and make good gains in their communication skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff observe children as they play and plan enjoyable and stimulating activities to support their individual interests and next steps in learning. Babies have good opportunities to develop their walking skills and explore different textures, such as sand, water and paint. Older children explore number and measure as they build roads and fix cars. They are very imaginative in their role play as builders, mechanics, nurses and teachers. Children learn about the natural environment as they dust flowers for pollen and pretend to be bees collecting nectar. Children listen well and join in with phrases as staff read stories with great expression and animation. Additional funding children receive is used wisely to support their good progress. Leaders review children's progress very frequently to help ensure any gaps in progress are swiftly closed.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff implement procedures and policies well to promote children's well-being. Staff rigorously check the environment for potential hazards and teach children how to keep themselves safe. Children create their own roads and traffic with appropriate road signs to explore and learn about road safety. Staff are attentive to babies' needs. They promptly change nappies and support each child's need for rest. Children behave well. Staff help children learn to share and take turns. They help children understand how their actions may affect others. Staff provide a safe and clean environment which offers a wide range of resources and experiences to ignite children's imagination.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain key skills and positive attitudes to support the next stage in their learning and the eventual move on to school. They are active learners who eagerly explore the rich learning environment. They confidently recognise shapes, such as hexagons and triangles. Older children learn to negotiate and develop friendships. They sign their names on letters inviting their new school teachers to meet them. Children are confident talkers. They develop good independence in play and in their self-care routines.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY478404
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1122911
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 - 4
Total number of places	38
Number of children on roll	61
Name of registered person	Clarence House Day Nurseries Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP903550
Date of previous inspection	22 January 2018
Telephone number	01223778383

Clarence House Cambridge registered in 2014 and is privately owned. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one who holds qualified teacher status. The manager is qualified at level 6 and holds early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.15pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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