

Clarence House March

72 Station Road, March, PE15 8NP



Inspection date

25 June 2018

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 know children well. They regularly assess children's progress and plan appropriate and fun activities to support their next steps in learning. Children make good progress.
- Staff regularly share information with other professionals involved in children's lives. Children benefit from consistency in their care and learning, particularly those children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- The manager makes effective use of a range of information to help her to identify the nursery's strengths and areas to improve. For instance, she gathers parents' and staff's views; she analyses children's individual progress and the progress for the different groups of children that attend.
- Children establish strong bonds with staff. They demonstrate that they feel safe and secure in their care. For instance, babies confidently seek reassurance from their key person if they feel upset. Staff respond promptly and are attentive to babies' needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make the most of opportunities to extend children's awareness and understanding of capacity and volume.
- Sometimes, staff over direct children's play during activities, meaning children have fewer opportunities to be creative and think of their own ideas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities to help children understand and explore capacity and volume
- give children more opportunities to develop their own ideas and be creative.

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 a joint observation 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 arrangements for safeguarding are 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 to assure the suitability of adults working with children. She provides effective induction arrangements to ensure new staff understand their role and are well supported to develop their knowledge and skills. The manager conducts regular supervision meetings with staff that help them to identify their strengths in practice and where they may need further training. Staff share ideas from training they attend, such as supporting children's communication and language development. Children have good opportunities to talk and are becoming confident communicators.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff observe children as they play and assess children's progress in learning. They establish children's starting points with their parents and regularly share information with them about what their child needs to do next. Parents state that they are well informed about their child's progress. Staff talk to children as they play. They introduce new words to help build children's understanding and their vocabulary. Children enjoy sloshing water as they wash the toy cars outside. They listen to and follow instructions as they re-enact a favourite story with staff. Babies have good space to explore and develop their physical skills, such as crawling and walking. Staff gently name items they see in books and talk to them about the daily routine. Children develop good literacy skills. For example, they join in with familiar songs and rhymes and share books with staff.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff implement the nursery's policies and procedures to promote children's good health and safety well. For example, they regularly check the outdoor environment for potential hazards and promptly sweep up fallen materials, such as sand, after messy play activities. Children learn how to keep themselves safe. They know they need to wear a hat and sun screen so they will not burn in the hot sun. Staff consistently support children's good behaviour well. They praise children's efforts and achievements. This helps children to build good levels of self-esteem. Staff invite school teachers to nursery to meet children before they move to school. They talk to children about the move to school to help them prepare emotionally for the change. Children enjoy a nutritious range of freshly prepared meals. Staff talk to children about the importance of dental hygiene.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress given their starting points and capabilities. They gain key skills and positive attitudes to support the next stage in their learning and the eventual move to school. Older children develop peer friendships and learn to share and take turns in play. They enjoy doing things for themselves, such as serving their food and drinks at mealtimes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY500408
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1053737
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	74
Name of registered person	Clarence House Day Nurseries Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP903550
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01223 911520

Clarence House March registered in 2016. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff, including the manager. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The manager holds early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, with the exception of one week at Christmas and bank holidays. 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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