

Dell Cottage Day Nursery

76 Walkford Road, Walkford, Christchurch, Dorset, BH23 5QG



Inspection date

28 June 2018

Previous inspection date

1 December 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The manager and staff are highly committed to providing children with excellent care and learning. They continually review and adapt the provision superbly to provide the very best experiences for children.
- Children eagerly join in with activities and make outstanding progress from their starting points. All groups of children are exceptionally well prepared for the next stage in their learning, including starting school.
- Staff are extremely skilled in motivating and engaging children during their self-initiated exploration and discovery, to superbly extend their critical thinking. For example, older children are thoroughly absorbed as they investigate which objects float in a tray of water. They experiment and work out how much more water they need to fill the tray, showing excellent problem-solving skills.
- Children benefit greatly from the excellently organised environment which stimulates children to explore in the superb and highly focused activities. For example, younger children investigate enthusiastically with staff to learn how to make patterns and shapes using brushes and water.
- Extremely strong partnerships with parents and other professionals contribute towards children's excellent progress. Staff gain excellent information about what children can already do to inform their meticulous assessments of children's learning and progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to enhance the exceptional planning system to maintain the excellent standard of teaching.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff during activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager, and spoke with staff and children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection and reviewed parents' written comments.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, and the policies and procedures, including those related to the suitability of staff.

Inspector

Rachel Cornish

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The manager ensures that staff have an excellent awareness of their responsibility to protect children. She follows clearly detailed recruitment and employment processes to fully assess and monitor the ongoing suitability of staff. The manager supports staff extremely well in their ongoing professional development to benefit children's needs. For example, following the previous inspection, staff have learnt how to further adapt the learning environment to provide highly exciting exploration and discovery challenges indoors and outdoors. The manager quickly identifies any gaps in learning and ways to help children catch up, using highly efficient systems, to ensure all children make the best progress. She is extremely committed to implementing improvement plans, such as using better techniques of capturing moments of spontaneous children's learning to inform future plans and enhance learning further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff use training very effectively and their exemplary knowledge of how children learn. They meticulously observe and provide exactly the right expert support so children's play is long lasting. For example, children learn that a football is a sphere shape and staff request that they find other sphere objects in the environment. Staff provide outstanding support for children to make decisions and extend their ideas. For example, after learning about the sound the letter 'P' makes, older children chose two objects that begin with the letter 'P', and make up a story to share with others using the items. Staff expertly extend children's vocabulary and communication skills. Toddlers take great pleasure playing in the spacious and highly stimulating outdoor play areas. For example, they very enthusiastically enjoy painting outdoors, learning about mixing and making different colours and playing with real foods in an outdoors kitchen to enhance their sensory play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are extremely confident. They freely explore the highly stimulating resources and activities in the very vibrant and safe environment. Children benefit from the excellent settling-in procedures, where staff consider their individual needs exceptionally well. Children have very high self-esteem. For instance, in Spanish, they eagerly express their expert knowledge of different colours with others. Children have excellent relationships. Staff very skilfully help them learn about the feelings of others and different emotions, for example, by using picture cards showing different feelings. Staff lay excellent foundations for children to adopt healthy and safe lifestyle habits, and for developing a secure respect for the beliefs and traditions of others.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children use mathematics exceptionally well throughout their activities and develop excellent early reading skills. They display extremely high levels of concentration and cooperation. Children work together exceptionally well and become highly engrossed in the activities. They are extremely imaginative. Children gain an excellent sense of satisfaction through their investigations and thinking things through logically.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY315470
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	1070721
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 7
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	39
Name of registered person	Dell Cottage Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP525889
Date of previous inspection	1 December 2014
Telephone number	01425 274411

Dell Cottage Day Nursery is privately owned, and registered in 2005. It operates from a converted house in Walkford, an area of Highcliffe, in Dorset. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round from 8am until 6pm. There is currently a team of seven staff, who work with the children. Of these, five hold early years qualifications at level 3 and the manager also has early years professional status.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2018

