

Dovedale Nursery

Moulsham Infant School, Princes Road, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 9DG



Inspection date	28 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		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Regular risk assessments are carried out in the areas used by children. This helps the leader and her staff to effectively identify and minimise potential hazards. Daily safety checks are carried out to ensure that the environments remain safe for children.
- Parents say that they are very happy with the service provided. They describe staff as brilliant and friendly. Parents talk about how happy their children are at the club and that staff often play outdoors with the children. Parents say that they would recommend the club to others.
- Children demonstrate that they are developing good concentration skills. They talk about how much they enjoy colouring in and spend sustained amounts of time at this activity.
- Children enjoy taking part in a wide range of conversations with staff and invite them to join in with some of their games.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children are not supported as well as they could be to help them consistently develop close relationships with their key person.
- While there are a wide range of toys and resources, at times there are not enough opportunities for children to make independent choices about their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the key-person system to help children develop an even closer relationship with staff
- provide children with even more opportunities to make independent choices from the wide range of toys and equipment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of staff interaction and play during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's development.
- The inspector observed practice and discussed this with the manager.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the staff and children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of persons working with children. The inspector also discussed with the manager how she reflects on practice.
- The inspector took account of parents' views through discussion at inspection.

Inspector

Ann Cozzi

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have completed training that helps them to identify the signs and symptoms of abuse. They are aware of who the designated safeguarding person is for the club. Thorough vetting procedures mean that all adults working with children have completed suitability checks. The leader monitors staff practice and supports their professional development through regular supervision meetings. The manager regularly visits the club to hold supervision meetings with the leader and provide professional support. Staff communicate well with children's teachers to support their well-being and complement their learning in school. The leader listens to children's and parents' views and opinions and staff have opportunities to feedback their ideas. This helps the leader and manager to make decisions about the future development of the club.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy using their imaginations as they play with toys. They make up stories using real and imagined experiences. For example, children play with toy animals and pretend that they can talk to each other. They use their voice in a different way for each of the animals. Children show their understanding of the world when they talk about going to the shops to get food for dinner. They talk about the food they have chosen and pretend to pay the shopkeeper before going home to cook it. Children have plenty of fun taking part in outdoor play activities. They are able to use a wide range of movements as they skilfully climb large play equipment. Children show good concentration skills as they spend time working out how to make their way across balancing equipment.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well. They share and take turns as they engage in team games, showing great enthusiasm as they run around passing the ball to others and trying to score a goal. Children are happy, safe and settled in the club. They show good levels of confidence and interact well with visitors. Staff encourage children to develop physical skills, such as hand-to-eye coordination. For example, they give them plenty of praise when they successfully bounce a large ball using one hand. Children show great pride in this achievement and excitedly call their friends over to show them what they can do. Children are encouraged to risk assess as they use equipment. Staff are nearby in case they need any assistance. Children wash their hands before sitting down to eat the nutritionally balanced range of foods provided for them at snack and tea time.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY535925
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1053871
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	4 - 11
Total number of places	48
Number of children on roll	46
Name of registered person	Chelmsford College
Registered person unique reference number	RP527372
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01245293015

Dovedale Nursery registered in 2016. The out-of-school club employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The club opens from Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions for the breakfast club are from 7.30am to 8.45am and for the after-school club are from 3pm to 6pm.

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