

Elm Cottage Day Nursery

Orrishmere Primary School, Worcester Road, Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle, SK8 5NW



Inspection date

27 June 2018

Previous inspection date

2 July 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 and staff team have a good understanding of the early years foundation stage. Children access a wide range of good-quality resources and activities. This helps to enhance their learning and development.
- The manager monitors children's achievements thoroughly. This enables staff to identify and address any gaps in children's learning swiftly. All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, make good progress from their starting points.
- Strong key-person relationships ensure that children's needs are met. Staff provide supportive settling-in visits. This helps to contribute to children's well-being and provide continuity of their care. Children settle quickly and demonstrate that they are happy, feel safe and are emotionally secure.
- Staff work well in partnership with parents. They keep parents informed about their children's progress and well-being and help them to support children's learning at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, routines for the younger children are rigid and do not allow children to engage in activities for extended periods.
- The manager does not monitor staff's practice consistently in order to raise the quality of teaching to a higher level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities for younger children to engage in activities for longer periods
- develop a rigorous staff monitoring and performance management system to improve the quality of teaching to an outstanding level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this had on children's learning and development.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a range of policies and procedures, children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector looked at documents and checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.

Inspector

Fiona Johnson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have attended child protection training to enhance their knowledge and skills. They are confident of the signs and symptoms that a child may be at risk and how to report any concerns they may have. Procedures for recruitment and the monitoring of staff suitability are in place. The ambitious management team aims to be outstanding. It evaluates the setting's practice and has a clear understanding of the strengths and weaknesses. Action plans are used effectively to help target areas for development. This helps to ensure all aspects of the provision continually improve. Staff have access to regular training to support their ongoing professional development. Feedback from parents is extremely complimentary. They rate the staff highly and say that children thrive in the setting.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified team regularly carries out observations and makes accurate assessments of children's learning. Staff use this information to plan activities based upon children's next steps and interests. Children are eager to learn. They really enjoy exploring and mixing coloured paints. Staff promote children's language and communication skills well. Children happily talk about what their shadows are doing to staff. This helps to promote children's self-esteem. Staff are enthusiastic and interact well with children. They are sensitive to children who require additional support throughout their day and provide activities for all abilities. Children relish taking part in enjoyable activities using moulding dough to music.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The friendly and welcoming staff help children form strong appropriate bonds with them. Parents are aware of their child's key person, which helps children to grow in confidence and feel emotionally secure. Children behave well and are kind to each other. The children eat nutritious food and follow good hygiene routines. Staff use opportunities during mealtimes to encourage children to think about how the food they eat is contributing to their good health. Children get plenty of fresh air and physical exercise outdoors. This helps to promote their physical well-being.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those in receipt of additional funding, are making typical progress in line with their age. They are happy, motivated and confident learners who enthusiastically follow their own interests. Children show increasing levels of independence. For instance, older children help set up for lunch and serve the meals making their own choices as required. Children enjoy making marks in 'gloop' and writing their names. Babies are gently encouraged to try new experiences and textures through sand play. Children are being well prepared in readiness for the move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	307134
Local authority	Stockport
Inspection number	1127920
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	1 - 4
Total number of places	29
Number of children on roll	89
Name of registered person	Elm Cottage Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP907526
Date of previous inspection	2 July 2015
Telephone number	0161 488 4471

Elm Cottage Day Nursery registered in 1998. The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, 12 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm.

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.

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