

Queens College Day Nursery

Owlstone Croft Residences, Owlstone Road, CAMBRIDGE CB3 9JJ



Inspection date	26 February 2019
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
		Not applicable	
Effectiveness of 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

- Leaders are inspiring and deeply committed to provide children with high-quality care and meaningful learning experiences. They lead highly motivated and professional staff who work exceptionally hard to continually sustain the outstanding practice.
- Teaching is inspirational. Staff consistently extend children's learning to the highest levels, using their professional knowledge of how children learn and develop exceptionally well. They expertly adapt activities to tailor their approach to reflect children's individual stage of learning and their emerging interests. Children make rapid progress in their learning.
- Staff work exceptionally well in partnership with parents. They highly value parents' contributions about children's interests and achievements at home. They help parents to understand how children learn and how they may support children's ongoing learning at home. This significantly contributes to the excellent rates of progress children make.
- Children behave incredibly well and show high levels of self-control. They are highly motivated to join in with activities and show respect to each other, staff and the environment. They are well mannered, take turns in play and develop peer friendships.
- Children thrive in the care of dedicated staff who consistently prioritise children's safety and well-being at all times. Children settle quickly and demonstrate that they feel safe and secure. They establish strong bonds with their key person and all staff.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to make the most of professional development opportunities to sustain the excellent quality of teaching and explore ways to share the high-quality practice to inspire others.

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 and provider. 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 together with written feedback provided.

Inspector
Gail Warnes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Leaders highly value their staff who have excellent opportunities to develop their knowledge and skills through training, independent research and to gain further professional qualifications. Staff are highly skilled and knowledgeable. Parents state that they appreciate the advice and support they receive that promotes children's safety and progress in learning. The manager is highly reflective. She precisely analyses the progress that individual children and different groups of children make. She gathers the views of parents and staff to help her to identify strengths in practice and areas to enhance. The manager intends to build on staff's strengths in practice to help to inspire others and maintain the already excellent standards. Safeguarding is effective. Staff confidently fulfil their role to protect children from harm. They have an expert knowledge of wider safeguarding issues and know what to do should they have any concerns about a child's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff are highly motivated and their passion for their work is infectious. They know the children exceptionally well. They accurately assess children's progress and identify their next steps in learning. Staff consistently extend children's learning to the highest level. Staff speak clearly and precisely. This is particularly beneficial for children who speak English as an additional language to support their understanding. Staff encourage children to develop their play. For instance, they stack magnetic squares to form cubes and learn how magnets repel and attract. Children listen intently to stories and re-enact them as they develop their ideas in role play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff act as superb role models for children. They are calm kind and friendly. Staff are extremely knowledgeable about the specific needs of babies. They are highly attentive and use soft tones as they encourage their exploration of sand and cereals. Staff help toddlers to learn about and respect other living creatures. For instance, they help children to find frogs in the garden and talk about their natural habitats. Children enjoy the social aspect of eating nutritious, home-cooked meals together. Staff encourage children's independence and sense of responsibility effectively. Children help to complete risk assessments of the garden and develop a strong sense of how to keep themselves safe.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make exceptional rates of progress given their starting points and capabilities. Children are self-assured, active learners who confidently explore the stimulating environment. Babies develop secure physical skills as they crawl, stand and walk. Toddlers communicate their needs and ideas confidently. They repeat words and phrases they hear at story time, building an extensive vocabulary. Pre-school children investigate and explore through hands-on meaningful experiences, such as simulated volcanic eruptions, using vinegar and bicarbonate of soda, and dissecting daffodils. Children are exceedingly well prepared for the next stage in learning and the move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY543673
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10090187
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	29
Name of registered person	Wigwam Nurseries Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP903375
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01223 335623

Queens College Day Nursery registered in 2017. The nursery employs seven members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The manager holds appropriate early years qualifications at level 5 and one member of staff holds qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays. Sessions are from 8.30am until 5pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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