

Keepers Cottage Day Nursery

Keepers Cottage Day Nursery, North Luffenham Road, STAMFORD,
Lincolnshire PE9 3UT



Inspection date	23 May 2019
Previous inspection date	19 January 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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 provide a very welcoming and stimulating environment for children. Children settle quickly when they arrive at the nursery. They show that they are happy and enjoy being there.
- Staff are warm, friendly and form strong relationships with children, who show they are confident and becoming increasingly independent. For example, children make choices about what they want to play with and staff follow their lead.
- The quality of teaching is strong. Children make good progress from their starting points, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- Members of the management team evaluate the strengths and areas of development in the nursery. They make improvements to help give children better outcomes. For instance, recent changes have helped children to have more access to the outdoor learning environments. This has helped children who prefer to learn outdoors to make more progress.
- Staff do not gather enough information from parents about what their child already knows and can do when they start at the nursery. This means they do not always build on children's existing skills.
- At times, the monitoring of staff practice by management does not identify the training they need to help them 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:

- gather more information from parents when children first start, to help staff build on children's existing skills
- improve the monitoring of staff practice so that the support and training given to them help raise the quality of teaching to a higher level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching as children played inside and outside. She carried a joint observation of an activity with the manager and discussed the quality of teaching.
- The inspector spoke with the provider, management team, staff and children at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector considered the views of parents through discussions and written feedback.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including children's assessment records and the nursery's policies and procedures.

Inspector
Susan Sykes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Managers and staff know what to look for that could alert them to child being at risk of harm. They understand the procedures to follow should they have any concerns. Staff and management implement a wide range of policies and procedures carefully. This helps to support children's safety and well-being. Recruitment and induction procedures for new staff are thorough and the suitability of staff is rigorously checked by the provider and manager. Staff are well qualified and have a good understanding of how young children learn and develop. The manager and staff check children's progress. They identify any gaps in children's learning, and any concerns are quickly addressed. Parents speak very highly of the nursery and the service it offers.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff carry out observations of children's play and assess their development. They plan their next steps so that these meet each child's needs. Staff support children's communication and language development well. For example, younger children enjoy looking at books as they snuggle with staff. They point at the pictures and staff name the characters. Older children explore and talk about textures of different fruits. Staff introduce new words, such as 'core' and 'pips', which helps to extend children's vocabulary. Children are developing their early literacy skills and knowledge well. For instance, older children use magnetic letters and boards to form their names while staff offer sensitive support. Children's mathematical development is well supported by staff. For instance, staff encourage children to count the number of plates they need for themselves and their friends to cut fruit on. Children confidently count and recognise numbers while staff praise them for their achievements.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Flexible procedures help new children to settle into the nursery. Staff give the support children need to feel emotionally secure. For example, younger children receive lots of cuddles and reassurance. Children's good health is very well supported. They enjoy nutritious meals and have access to fresh air and exercise throughout the day. Staff are good role models and children behave well. Children use good manners without prompt. Children are proud as they complete small tasks, such as putting their toys away without being asked. Staff offer children lots of praise. This helps to boost children's self-esteem and confidence.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are enthusiastic and keen learners. They are forming firm friendships and are learning to respect each other. For example, they take turns and share their toys without requests from staff. Children develop the skills for their next stage in learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY280321
Local authority	Rutland Council
Inspection number	10073341
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	64
Number of children on roll	93
Name of registered person	Climbing High Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP908919
Date of previous inspection	19 January 2016
Telephone number	01780 721880

Keepers Cottage Day Nursery registered in 2004 and is based in Stamford, Lincolnshire. It is owned by Climbing High Nurseries LTD. The nursery employs 17 members of childcare staff. Of these, 12 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.45am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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