

Sawtry Day Nursery

Sawtry Village Academy, Fen Lane, Sawtry, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire
PE28 5TQ



Inspection date	15 August 2019
Previous inspection date	16 June 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- Relationships between children and practitioners are exemplary. Practitioners purposefully praise children for their achievements to give them a superb sense of worth and high self-esteem.
- Children are highly motivated to learn. They take part in exceptionally well-planned activities with enormous pleasure and excitement. Practitioners skilfully capture children's interest and curiosity as, for example, they encourage them to examine mini-beasts in the garden.
- Practitioners have an in-depth understanding of individual children and how each one prefers to learn. This helps them to plan and provide sharply tailored learning experiences that promote children's outstanding progress.
- Children have wonderful opportunities to explore the natural world. They excitedly look for dragons in the woods and learn to weave with willow.
- Children's good health is admirably supported through a comprehensive programme of physical activity indoors and outside. Practitioners teach children about healthy lifestyles and help them to grow, tend and harvest fresh produce in their kitchen garden.
- The owner is passionate about providing high-quality learning experiences for children. She and her team strive for excellence and work marvellously well together.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to find creative ways to target professional development for staff that expands their already significant skills and helps to sustain children's outstanding progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and practitioners to evaluate the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a planned activity with the owner, who also manages the nursery.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day, and from written testimonials and survey forms.
- The inspector sampled some documents, including children's records, staff's suitability checks and evidence of their qualifications. She spoke with the owner, practitioners and children during the inspection.

Inspector

Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Managers and practitioners have an excellent understanding of their responsibilities to keep children safe. They attend child protection training and frequently review their knowledge at team meetings. Thorough recruitment processes help to ensure practitioners are suitable to work with children and have the right skills. The owner provides practitioners with exceptional support, and morale is high. She takes account of the views of parents, children and other agencies to help her and her team plan for continuous improvement. The staff are currently exploring how they can extend their professional development still further. Parents speak highly of practitioners and say the nursery is 'fabulous'.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff capture children's attention skilfully. They tell children 'we must ask the woods for permission to enter' to stimulate their interest and encourage them to use their imaginations. Staff have high expectations for children and expertly expand children's vocabulary. They use precise language, such as 'habitat' and 'secateurs', and encourage children to recall and use these complex words. Children listen enthralled to stories and bounce with excitement as they learn about 'Tom Kitten' and his adventures. They use numbers with confidence as, for instance, they count out loud when playing hide and seek. Children demonstrate a real curiosity in the world around them and confidently tell others how a caterpillar turns into a butterfly. Practitioners conscientiously involve parents in all aspects of their children's learning. They provide parents with regular reports on children's learning experiences, gather information from home about children's interests and offer parents use of nursery resources.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Young children and babies flourish under the watchful eyes of their attentive carers. They show enormous confidence as they explore new materials, such as jelly. Practitioners patiently build strong bonds with babies. They make home visits to find out more about them and carefully follow their home routines. Practitioners successfully teach children right from wrong. They positively support children to discuss and resolve their own minor disputes, which gives them a very good grounding for the future challenges of school. Children quickly develop an aptitude for cooperative play and enjoy sharing games with others. Practitioners have developed close links with other agencies that help them to ably support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children have very good social skills and develop strong friendships with their peers. Older children listen well to stories and eagerly practise their early writing skills. Children work together exceptionally well to solve problems. For example, they create obstacle courses from tyres and planks. Children have admirable confidence in their own abilities. They independently tackle practical tasks, such as preparing foods or tidying away their toys competently. Pre-school children develop the key skills they need in preparation for their move into Reception classes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	221580
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10113102
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	38
Number of children on roll	73
Name of registered person	Sawtry Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP902206
Date of previous inspection	16 June 2016
Telephone number	01487 832501

Sawtry Day Nursery registered in 1993. The nursery is open Monday to Friday all year round from 7.45am until 6pm. There are 19 members of staff including the owner, who also manages the nursery, and two nursery cooks. Of these, 16 hold relevant qualifications between level 2 and level 6. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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