

Inspection of Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery Cambridge

12-13 Regent Terrace, Cambridge CB2 1AA

Inspection date:

18 September 2019

Overall effectiveness

Good

The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

Personal development

Good

Leadership and management

Good

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Leaders work hard to provide high-quality childcare that meets the needs of the community. Children are happy to arrive at the nursery. They have close bonds with the staff, who welcome them at the start of their day. Staff quickly get to know children and their early experiences outside nursery. Children behave well and are ready to get involved in the variety of activities available.

Babies are provided with resources that help them to learn through their senses. They handle a variety of different materials and real items, experiencing the clang of a metal dish or the thud of a wooden spoon. Toddlers play in their home corner, replicating what they already know from home. They cook dinner in the kitchen or go shopping in the supermarket. Pre-school children are proud of their garden. At certain times of the year they grow fruit and vegetables. They learn about where food comes from and how to prepare food to eat at snack time.

Staff take children on outings to visit nearby places of interest, for example, multicultural food shops, the market and fire station. Children have opportunities to recall these experiences in the nursery as relevant photographs are displayed. They also reproduce what they have learned on these visits in their role play.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The leadership team is strong. Leaders work well together to provide guidance and support to the staff team. They value staff development and seek to provide opportunities relevant to the needs of each staff member. They are keen to build on the quality of their staff team to support the outcomes for children who attend the nursery.
- Leaders use their knowledge of children's development to help review their provision. They identify areas of learning where children are achieving less well and provide a focus to improve practice.
- Staff have good knowledge of all the children. They provide a warm welcome as they arrive at the nursery. There is support for each child to help them settle quickly into their play. Children are happy and engaged in the many learning experiences on offer throughout the day.
- While the quality of teaching is good, on occasion there is some inconsistency in the relevance of the learning intentions for the activities. Staff do not always provide enough prior learning to support the challenge within planned activities.
- Staff support children's early language development well. They confidently use different techniques to develop children's language, including those who speak English as an additional language. They use picture cards and signing to help children's understanding, as needed. Staff competently add new words to help extend children's vocabulary.

- Children have access to a variety of books and staff regularly read to children. Older children experience group story time, sitting together on the carpet, listening to a book of their choice. While most children engage with the story, the organisation of this activity means that children are sitting for a long time and they sometimes lose focus.
- Staff work well in partnership with parents. Information is regularly shared about children's care as well as celebrating their milestones and daily experiences. Parents speak highly of the nursery and are happy with the quality of care their children receive.
- There are many opportunities for children to experience and explore the outdoor environment. They begin to understand the world around them and have daily opportunities for fresh air. Children develop their large and small muscles while taking part in the many activities available that support physical development.
- The staff are enthusiastic in their work. They encourage children's independence, for example, during their care routines and mealtimes. Children gain confidence in their self-help skills.
- Staff manage children's transitions well when they move into their new room. Children are given the time they need to settle, helping their confidence and self-esteem.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff receive regular training and discuss safeguarding at team meetings. All staff have a clear understanding of their role and responsibilities and know how to act swiftly to meet children's needs in the event of a child protection concern. In addition, procedures are used to help to keep children safe. For example, regular checks are made of the premises and accidents are closely monitored to identify any common cause. Leaders support safe recruitment and check the suitability of staff.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- make sure that all staff are confident in providing children with learning opportunities that build on their current learning and present correct challenge that allows children to succeed
- organise whole-group story time so that children are actively engaged and therefore benefit even more from the awe and wonder of storytelling.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY544514
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10102509
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 to 4
Total number of places	59
Number of children on roll	58
Name of registered person	Zero25 Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP544513
Telephone number	01223778370
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery Cambridge registered in 2017. The nursery employs 20 members of staff, 15 of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications. The nursery operates Monday to Friday all year round, with the exception of bank holidays and one week at Christmas. Opening times are 7.30am to 6.30pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jane Osburn

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of all areas of the nursery.
- A joint observation was carried out by the inspector and the deputy manager.
- A meeting was held between the inspector, the proprietor and the deputy manager.
- The inspector held discussions with the parents and gained their views on the nursery provision.
- The inspector spoke to the staff throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of the nursery's documentation and viewed evidence of staff suitability and training.

We carried out this inspection 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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