

Inspection of Clever Cloggs Day Nursery

26 Honey Road, Little Canfield, Takeley, Essex CM6 1FF

Inspection date: 29 March 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Inadequate

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children enjoy their time at this nursery. They arrive confidently and settle quickly, eager to choose from a stimulating range of activities on offer. Children demonstrate that they feel safe and secure. All children show they have formed strong bonds with staff. Babies receive prompt and sensitive attention to ensure their needs are met. They benefit from the calm environment and confidently seek reassurance from familiar staff should they feel upset or tired. Older children seek out friends and staff to share their ideas and experiences. Two-year-old children choose the ingredients to make potions, such as oranges, daffodils and marshmallows which they say are 'slimy like fish'. Children show good hand-to-eye coordination as they pour and mix the liquid. They peel oranges that they add to change the colour of the mixture. Outside children actively participate in a puppet show, which makes them squeal with laughter.

Children behave well and learn to share and take turns with their friends. They respond positively to staff's gentle reminders that help them to understand what is expected of them. Staff seek children's consent before changing nappies and supporting children's care routines. They give children lots of praise for their efforts and achievements. This helps children to build good levels of self-esteem and can-do attitudes to try new things.

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

- Since the last inspection, the leadership team has reflected and made significant changes to the organisation of the nursery. The manager has actively sought support from the local authority and independent consultants. She has successfully implemented changes and ensured parents are informed of these. The manager consults with and fully involves staff in the journey to improve.
- All staff have received training and demonstrate how this is helping them to improve experiences for children. They receive regular one-to-one meetings which help to identify any training and coaching needs. Staff say that they feel well supported by leaders to understand and fulfil their roles. They add that they enjoy their work with children.
- The manager ensures that staff understand the nursery curriculum. She encourages staff to meet regularly to discuss ideas that help to engage children in purposeful play and build on what they already know. Staff know the children well and what they are interested in. They use this to help them plan effectively in all rooms to help children make progress in their learning. The manager has effective systems in place to review staff practice and check that all children are achieving well.
- Staff help children to develop good communication and language skills. They understand that young children learn through repetition and use songs and

stories to help them build understanding and learn new words. Children confidently communicate their needs and wants. They show that learning is embedded. For instance, children learn the names of some flowers and talk confidently about daffodils that grow in the garden.

- Parents are positive about the nursery and staff. They say that their children are happy and enjoy attending. Parents state that they receive information about their children's progress in learning and what they do at nursery.
- Staff promptly identify signs that children may need additional help or may be at risk of falling behind their peers. They sensitively support parents to help them seek appropriate professional guidance. Staff work well with other professionals to implement targeted support and share information, particularly when children move on to school.
- Staff are kind and keen to help children. However, sometimes, they do not recognise when children can do things for themselves. For example, staff spread butter on scones for children in the pre-school room; staff pour drinks for toddlers and when playing with water outside, staff refill containers from the outdoor tap.
- Sometimes, group activities for two-year-old children are too long. Some staff plan too many activities for a group circle time. For example, children listen when staff read a story as a group. However, when more activities are added during this time, some children lose interest and turn away.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders have reviewed and refined safeguarding policies and procedures. All staff have received updated training about safeguarding, child protection and whistle-blowing procedures. Staff know the possible indicators of child abuse and neglect. They know what to do should they have any concerns about a child's welfare. Staff demonstrate a good knowledge of wider safeguarding issues, such as the risks to children of hearing extremist views. Leaders implement robust recruitment and induction processes that help to assure the suitability of adults working with children. Leaders have appropriate processes in place to keep clear records when a concern is raised with them.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- give children more opportunities to help them develop independence
- help staff working with young children plan effectively for group activities to ensure children are not expected to sit for prolonged periods.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY409684
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10216948
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 at time of inspection	0 to 11
Total number of places	140
Number of children on roll	172
Name of registered person	Clever Cloggs Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP529924
Telephone number	01279 871 687
Date of previous inspection	18 November 2021

Information about this early years setting

Clever Cloggs Day Nursery registered in 2010 and is run by a private company. The nursery employs 25 members of childcare staff. Of these, 17 hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 2 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Opening times are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors

Gail Warnes
Carly Mooney

Inspection activities

- The manager and inspectors completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspectors spoke to children, to find out about their time at the nursery.
- The inspectors talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspectors observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this was having on children's learning.
- The inspectors carried out joint observations of group activities with the manager.
- The inspectors spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

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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