

Inspection of The Co-operative Childcare Cam

22 Woodfield Road, Cam, Dursley, Gloucestershire GL11 6HE

Inspection date: 15 November 2022

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

The provider and staff create an exceptionally positive and enabling environment, with an abundance of delicately selected resources. The children's ideas and thoughts are considered, and planning is tailored to their interests. Staff provide the children with outstanding learning opportunities covering all areas of the curriculum, including regard for caring for the planet. For example, children are taught how to make small changes, such as not leaving the bathroom tap on and how to recycle different materials. Children deeply engage in activities, and retain information exceptionally well.

Children are provided with an abundance of literature to gain word recognition and familiarise themselves with letters and sounds. This is further promoted through their phonics scheme, which is carried out daily. The setting is extensively language-rich; it is an environment, where dialect is explored, promoted and encouraged. For example, children thoroughly enjoy the experience of fun, unique and animated story times, that staff provide on a daily basis.

Children are developing their skills in mathematics exceptionally well, gaining high levels of confidence. They are given ample opportunities for counting and adding numbers together. Staff create enjoyable activities and provide children with an abundance of involvement and control.

Younger children are exceeding in their independence skills during mealtimes, as staff encourage them to sit at the table on suitable chairs. Staff have exceptional knowledge of weaning and continually apply this in their practice. They provide relevant tools to support children's physical development of eating meals in a social environment. Staff support the children to explore food with their hands, developing sensory skills and a joy for mealtimes.

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

- Staff continually respect children's opinions during activities and ensure all children have the opportunity to voice their comments. For example, older children are involved in pre-school council meetings that allow children to discuss their likes and dislikes of the setting, the activities and the resources.
- Staff educate the children about food allergies and promote excellent organisation of snack and mealtimes, with a highly monitored allergy system, which involves colour-coordinated food bowls and milk jugs. Staff partnership is strongly secured in the setting to support the children's learning and behaviour.
- The manager is exceptionally skilled in evaluating staff practice. She is competent in recognising strengths and weaknesses within the setting's education plans, and what impact activities are having on the children involved.

The manager is competent in recognising staff training needs to further develop their skills.

- Children who are learning to speak English as an additional language and children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are extremely well supported within the setting. Staff have exceptional skills in organising appropriate care. The classrooms are filled with support aids and staff carefully consider the needs of the children, promoting inclusivity and a diverse approach for all.
- Leaders create community links with multi-agencies and teachers to promote clear, positive communication. They are occasionally invited into the setting to create additional support for children and parents and to provide rich learning experiences for all children.
- The provider works extensively closely with parents, providing exceptional communication and support, particularly for families experiencing difficult circumstances. The provider encourages trusting parental relationships, instilling reassurance to leave their child in the care of the staff. Parents are incredibly pleased with the care their children receive. They have knowledge of what their children are learning and appreciate the healthy meal options available.
- Activities are meticulously planned through the children's interests, incorporating the children's own curiosity. Staff embrace their urges to explore and enquire, supporting the development of next steps towards their milestones. The enthusiastic staff continually praise the children for their positive approach to learning, building confidence and positive well-being.
- Leaders and staff consider the impact of COVID-19 and have made in-depth adaptations to the setting, to ensure all children are meeting their milestones, particularly in their communication and social skills.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers continually ensure that all staff within the setting are suitable to work with children. All staff are safeguarding trained and are extremely knowledgeable of how to report a safeguarding concern. Staff provide examples of concerns of abuse and how to react appropriately. Staff are capable of documenting concerns and understand the importance of following up concerns to ensure they are addressed appropriately. There is excellent managerial support for staff in their safeguarding training, and guidance documentation is in place to support staff during these circumstances. Managers and staff have positive links with outside agencies to support them in their knowledge of safeguarding children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY281245
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	10234790
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	4 to 0
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	97
Name of registered person	The Midcounties Co-Operative Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900862
Telephone number	01453 544111
Date of previous inspection	16 November 2016

Information about this early years setting

The Co-operative Childcare at Cam registered in June 2004. It operates from a detached building in Gloucestershire. The nursery opens five days a week all year round from 7.30am until 6.30pm. There are 23 members of staff working with the children. Of these, one holds a relevant early years qualification at level 5, and 17 hold qualifications at level 2 or level 3. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Michelle Oram

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector measured the quality of education by observing the children during their daily activities.
- The manager guided the inspector around the nursery to discuss the setting's overall curriculum and ethos during the learning walk.
- The inspector sought the views of parents and children at appropriate times of the day.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including suitability checks of staff.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with a senior member of staff to review daily practice.

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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