

Inspection of Circle of Friends Day Nursery

Lady Lane, Longford, Coventry, West Midlands CV6 6AZ

Inspection date: 15 March 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children arrive happy and excited to enter the nursery. They are able to explore and access a bright and inviting space, where they can select what they would like to do. Staff provide interesting activities to spark the children's enjoyment in learning. Older children access a discovery area that is filled with natural resources to support their knowledge and understanding of the world around them. While exploring in the discovery area, children find wiggly worms. They use a measuring tape to compare the sizes of the worms. Children excitedly shout, 'Mine is 20', as they measure the worms.

Children's literacy skills are supported well. Children select books and enjoy sharing these with each other. During outdoor play, staff tell children familiar stories and support them in using their imagination to act out what they hear. During the story, children show great excitement when faced with the 'swishy grass' and 'thick squelchy mud' while going on a bear hunt. Staff support the children to recall sections of the story, to help them develop their awareness of how stories are structured.

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

- Children have established warm and trusting relationships with staff. They seek them out for comfort and to share their experiences.
- Children are prepared for school and the wider world. They are supported to carry out tasks independently, such as putting on their coats and pouring water from jugs during mealtimes.
- Children enjoy being in each other's company. They have fun taking turns as they push the dolls in the toy pushchairs. However, there are moments when children are not always engaged. Staff do not always act quickly enough to support children's individual needs, which means children sometimes become distracted and unsettled.
- Children have access to a wide range of mark-making materials that allow them to develop early writing skills, including play dough. Children are provided with a variety of tools to use with the play dough, to build on their fine motor control.
- Parent partnership is strong. Parents comment on how they are kept up to date with their children's development through face-to-face discussions and the use of an online system.
- Staff support children's language development by introducing them to new words that expand their vocabulary. However, children are not always given the time to respond to questions asked, to fully support their communication skills.
- Staff have high expectations of children's behaviour. Children are supported to resolve conflicts and demonstrate respect for one another. Children's behaviour is good.

- Staff support children's transitions to school. They work with local primary school teachers to discuss children's development and plan smooth transitions from nursery on to school.
- Staff ensure that children develop healthy habits through outdoor exercise. Children play the 'traffic light game', where they run on green, walk on amber and stop on red. After running, children are requested to feel their hearts. This helps them to begin to gain an awareness of how fast their heart beats after running. Staff explain that this is important to ensure oxygen is being pumped around the body.
- Leaders and managers hold regular supervisions that allow them to identify areas for professional development. They support staff to access training that will give them an understanding of how to meet the development needs of the children in their care.
- Leaders and managers ensure that there is a broad and balanced curriculum. Children are regularly assessed to ensure they are meeting developmental milestones and that any gaps in learning are addressed. Steps are put in place to close any gaps in learning. Staff work closely with other agencies to ensure the needs of all children are met, particularly children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders maintain a strong culture of safeguarding. The nursery team works successfully to keep children as safe as possible. Staff have a very good understanding of safeguarding policies and follow rigorous procedures to deal with any concerns, incidents and allegations. Leaders implement safer recruitment and thorough supervision processes to ensure the ongoing suitability of staff within the nursery.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- support staff to recognise how to meet the needs of all children consistently, to maintain their engagement in activities
- give children more time to respond to questions, to further support their communication and language skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY295271
Local authority	Coventry
Inspection number	10279837
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 4
Total number of places	41
Number of children on roll	41
Name of registered person	Circle of Friends Day Nursery Limited Liability Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP910975
Telephone number	02476 367 001
Date of previous inspection	2 August 2017

Information about this early years setting

Circle of Friends Day Nursery registered in 2005 and is in Coventry. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff, six of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above, including the manager who holds a qualification at level 6. The nursery is open from 7.30am until 6pm, all year round, with the exception of bank holidays and Christmas. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Nichola Patel

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the nursery 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 nursery.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual/registered individual about the leadership and management of the nursery.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

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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