

Inspection of Nightingale Nursery Castle Donington

123 Park Lane, Castle Donington, Derby DE74 2RS

Inspection date: 25 July 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

Staff welcome children with enthusiasm and kindness at this friendly nursery. Children separate from their parents with ease and enter the nursery full of confidence. Staff enable children to select their own activities and to make independent choices from the stimulating and inviting resources available.

Children show a desire to learn and are supported well by staff to make good progress. They are familiar with the nursery routines and respond well to staff instructions and guidance. This is because staff consistently provide children with clear instructions and boundaries throughout the day.

Staff are observant and respond well to children's interests, using these to help to promote their learning. For example, older children find a web hidden in a tree and become engrossed in conversations with staff, as they discuss what they know about spiders. Staff extend children's knowledge as they talk about what spiders eat and how they lay eggs. They encourage children to think about what might happen if they touch and break the web. Toddlers are encouraged to revisit previous learning as they re-enact the role of firefighters and are enthralled while exploring dried pasta. Babies enjoy looking at familiar photos and cuddling into staff while looking at books. These opportunities help children to develop the necessary skills in readiness for their next steps in learning.

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

- Leaders and managers have created a well-thought-out curriculum, which is sequenced and covers the areas of children's learning. Staff focus on children being able to make choices about what they want to explore and learn. This enables children to acquire the skills to become confident and successful learners.
- Children learn to behave well and follow daily routines. Staff recognise and praise children's efforts and achievements. They are positive role models and have a gentle, calm approach throughout the day. This impacts positively on children, who have the same calm and relaxed demeanour.
- Staff place a strong emphasis on reading with children and developing their love of books. Younger children enjoy listening to stories and looking at pictures of zoo animals while staff model the sounds they make. Older children are encouraged to independently access books and enjoy regular story-time sessions.
- Staff are very knowledgeable about children. They describe their stage of development, interests, likes and dislikes in detail. However, they do not always make the most of information from children's assessments to help plan activities that consistently focus very precisely on what each child needs to learn next.

- Staff support children's growing vocabulary and their understanding of words and sounds. Older children join in group-time discussions and confidently share imaginary tales. Staff provide babies with a narration of what they are doing and introduce new words, such as 'pop' and 'blow'. Toddlers enjoy selecting song cards and joining in the actions of familiar songs and rhymes.
- Staff help children to become independent and to learn about healthy lifestyles. Younger children are supported to carry out good hygiene practices, such as washing their hands and brushing their teeth after eating. Older children learn to manage their personal care needs, such as going to the toilet independently. This helps to ensure children are ready for school when the time comes.
- Managers are reflective in how they evaluate areas of the nursery to identify changes that can be made. They recognise strengths and weaknesses and continually strive to improve the provision and the care they offer. Staff benefit from regular supervision meetings to help improve their practice. They report they feel supported by management and enjoy working at the nursery.
- Parents express how happy their children are to attend and comment on the progress children have made since they started. They state that staff create exciting activities for their children and keep them well informed about their care routines. However, staff have not yet found the most effective way to share information with parents, so they are clear about their child's next steps in learning and how they can support these at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders and managers ensure that staff keep their child protection knowledge up to date. The staff know the referral procedure and understand the steps to follow if there are concerns about a colleague or child. They know the possible indicators of abuse and understand safeguarding issues, such as the 'Prevent' duty and female genital mutilation. Staff ensure that the environment is safe for children to play in and supervise children well. The premises are secure and well maintained. Leaders adopt stringent procedures for the recruitment of new staff and carry out robust checks to ensure their ongoing suitability.

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 make the most of information gained from children's assessments, to help focus activities even more precisely on what each child needs to learn next
- improve strategies for sharing information with parents, so parents are clear regarding their child's next steps in learning and how they can support their learning at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY470433
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	10285998
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	89
Number of children on roll	79
Name of registered person	Nightingale Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP902778
Telephone number	01332850585
Date of previous inspection	27 October 2017

Information about this early years setting

Nightingale Nursery Castle Donnington registered in 2013 and is in Leicestershire. The nursery employs 22 members of childcare staff. Of these, two members of staff hold recognised early years qualifications at level 7, two hold qualifications at level 6, seven at level 3 and four at level 2. Two members of staff hold early years teaching qualifications. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and one week at Christmas. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provided funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Tina Garner

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector and the manager completed a walk around the nursery and discussed the manager's plans and reasoning for the early years curriculum.
- The inspector observed the quality of the curriculum during activities, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. She reviewed relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of 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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