

Inspection of Cherry Trees Day Nursery

1 Duncan Road, Cranfield, Bedford MK43 0ZU

Inspection date: 23 April 2024

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
------------------------------	--------------------

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

Children thrive in this inspiring and friendly nursery. They enthusiastically explore and investigate with their friends, rapidly building on what they already know and understand. Leaders create a strong ethos for children to become confident, independent learners, which is evident throughout the nursery. For example, children choose to make their own dough to play with. They work out when to add more water or flour to create a good consistency for their dough. Children ask staff for an orange which, after gentle encouragement from staff, children proficiently peel. They squeeze the juice into their dough mixture to help create a unique dough. This supports children's growing creativity and strengthens their thinking skills.

Babies and very young children are immersed in language and songs. The dedicated and nurturing staff teach babies signs, such as 'more', to help encourage communication from a very early age. As they grow, children become aware of their emotions through the array of resources, including books and dolls, staff purposefully introduce to them. Children quickly begin to regulate their own feelings and behaviours towards others. They know they can independently use button and sand timers, helping them manage minor disputes around sharing and taking turns with their friends. This contributes to the exceptional behaviour and attitudes children display.

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

- The provider and senior staff have high expectations for staff performance. From the onset of their employment, regular training and coaching helps to ensure staff extend their own knowledge and understanding to provide excellent care and education for babies and children. Training is purposeful, helping staff focus on the precise needs of the children in their care. As a result, staff have a deep understanding of how to most effectively support children's learning. Regional staff and leaders meticulously review and monitor the quality of provision to help ensure that children do not fall behind in their individual learning journeys.
- Partnerships with parents are valued. Staff have a deep respect for the views and knowledge parents have about their own children. Regular communication and information sharing helps staff maintain an exceptionally clear understanding about children's emotional and developmental progress. Parents have access to a wealth of information to help support them in their role through a secure online system. In addition, key persons offer advice and practical support to help children and parents navigate changes in their lives, such as potty training and preparing for school. Staff encourage parents to borrow items, such as resource sacks and books, from the well-maintained lending library. This helps to ensure times of change are made as smooth as possible.

- Children make choices about the direction of their learning. Their interests and discussions help to shape exciting and memorable activities, experiments and investigations staff facilitate. These help children rapidly build on what they already know and understand. Children embrace the new language and concepts they encounter, helping them find out about the world in which they live. For example, conversations about glass trigger discoveries about windows. Staff take children on a bus to visit a building with stained glass windows. Children's enthusiasm triggers further experiences leading to staff introducing even more activities relating to different kinds of transport. Staff confidently assess when to add challenge to accelerate children's learning and when to let children independently play and experiment to consolidate and put into practice their rapidly expanding knowledge.
- All children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language, make excellent progress. Staff ensure individual needs are integral in children's day-to-day experiences in the nursery. Regular assessments of what children know enable the dedicated staff to precisely focus on aspects of learning that follow a clear sequence. This helps to promote new achievements.
- Children's identities are celebrated. For example, parents record themselves welcoming their children to nursery in the language they hear at home. Staff learn traditional songs in different languages to sing with all the children in their group. This helps to promote a respectful and diverse community.
- From an early age, children show very high levels of independence. Through staff's encouragement, children quickly learn to look in mirrors while they wipe their faces after they have eaten. Children know where to find tissues to blow their own noses and understand why they need to wash their hands. At mealtimes, children look at a display box containing the raw ingredients of the food they are eating. This helps to trigger conversations around nutrition and health that provide an exceptionally solid foundation for future learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY499252
Local authority	Central Bedfordshire
Inspection number	10335526
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	95
Number of children on roll	147
Name of registered person	Childbase Partnership Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900830
Telephone number	01234751900
Date of previous inspection	19 June 2018

Information about this early years setting

Cherry Trees Day Nursery registered in 2016. It is one of the nurseries operated by the Childbase Partnership Limited. The nursery is open from 7.30am to 6.30pm from Monday to Friday all year round, except bank holidays. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-olds. The nursery employs 50 members of childcare staff, 33 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including three at level 6.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Katrina Rodden

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider has received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the manager and has taken that into account in her evaluation of the provision.
- The manager and room leaders took the inspector on a learning walk of the nursery. They described the curriculum and how each child is supported in their learning.
- The manager and inspector carried out a joint observation. The manager described the quality of teaching observed and discussed staff support and supervision with the inspector.
- The inspector observed activities in the group rooms and garden. She spoke to staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- A small number of parents spoke to the inspector. She also read emails and letters sent to her for the inspection. The inspector took the views of parents into consideration in her evaluation of the provision.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2024