

Daisy Chain Pre-School (Rectory Farm)

Olden Road, Rectory Farm, Northampton, Northamptonshire, NN3 5DD



Inspection date 11 March 2015
Previous inspection date 25 March 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff provide interesting and challenging experiences for children based on their precise assessments of their individual needs and interests. Consequently, all children make good progress in relationship to their starting points.
- Successful partnerships with parents, other providers and professionals results in an integrated approach to children's care, and learning and development. As a result, staff support each child's unique needs well.
- Children and their families are warmly welcomed into this nurturing environment. They are included and valued. Consequently, children feel safe and secure, which successfully develops their confidence and supports their emotional well-being.
- Staff are vigilant at all times to the safety of the children. Child protection procedures are robust. Staff are alert to the signs of abuse and understand the procedures to report concerns. This ensures children are protected.
- The manager and staff are committed to providing good quality care and learning for all children. The careful evaluation of all aspects of the pre-school enables them to set clear targets and continually strengthen practices.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make the best use of the outdoor environment to enhance children's curiosity of the natural world, and to challenge their existing physical skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance outdoor learning, for example, by providing gardening opportunities and creating structures using items, such as, tyres, milk crates and large cardboard boxes to challenge children's thinking and developing physical skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector was given a tour of the premises during the inspection.
- The inspector observed activities in the hall and outdoor area.
- The inspector held meetings with the nominated representative of the committee and the manager.
- The inspector spoke with children and the staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of practitioners working with children and discussed self-evaluation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Ann Austen

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Staff understand that young children encounter their environment through relating and communicating with others and engaging physically in their experiences. Children eagerly enter at the start of the session, and are developing the key skills needed for the next stage in their learning. Staff successfully build on the children's interests, as they play and effectivity shape their teaching strategies, language and questions techniques accordingly. Children playing with the building blocks are encouraged to name and make arrangements out of the shapes. They solve problems as they complete puzzles and are encouraged to count and sort objects according to their colour. Staff successfully use dough to encourage younger children to develop their hand-to-eye coordination and physical skills. Children are supported to manipulate and use tools to cut the dough. Staff provide good support for children who speak English as an additional language and children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. They introduce new vocabulary and use visual aids and games to support children's communication and language skills. Children freely move between the indoor and outdoor environments. However, their exploration of the natural world is not always given high priority and activities and resources do not always challenge older, more able children's physical skills. Additionally, the outdoor area sometimes lacks appeal. Consequently, learning opportunities are not always maximised during outdoor play.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Children's health and well-being is given high priority at the pre-school. They enjoy relationships with the staff that are close, warm and supported. This is further enhanced by well-established key-person arrangements. Staff talk to the parents to ensure their child is being cared for appropriately and create careful records of their development and progress. Children have daily access to the fresh air and exercise. Their independence and awareness of how to make healthy choices are promoted at snack time. They are encouraged to try new foods, independently select their choice of snack and pour their own drink. Children are developing an awareness of the boundaries that are in place for their safety. They are encouraged to listen, share and take their turn.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

Management and staff have a good overview of the educational experiences required to help children make good progress towards the early learning goals. Recruitment procedures are secure. All adults, including committee members are checked to determine their suitability, through Disclosure and Barring Service checks. The majority of staff are qualified. Staff receive regular supervision, which provides successful support and coaching. This results in children being cared for by staff who are effective in their role. Furthermore, the manager tracks children's learning effectively to monitor their progress and any gaps in the educational programmes. Comments received from parents are positive and complimentary regarding the care and learning provided.

Setting details

Unique reference number	220170
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	865856
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	44
Name of provider	Daisy Chain Pre-School Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	25 March 2011
Telephone number	07986 172066

Daisy Chain Pre-School Rectory Farm was registered in 2000. The pre-school employs 9 members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including one member of staff with Early Years Professional status. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 3pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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