

Lovacott Nursery

Lovacott Nursery, Lovacott, Torrington, Devon, EX31 3PU



Inspection date	12 December 2016
Previous inspection date	16 September 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The provider monitors children's progress well. She looks at individual children and specific groups to identify and review any gaps in learning. She acts quickly and works closely with parents and outside agencies to put required support in place. Children make good progress and any gaps for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities close swiftly.
- Self-evaluation is effective to maintain good standards and bring beneficial changes for children. The management team considers the views of parents, children and staff. Managers identify clear areas to action and address these well. For instance, they plan workshops for parents so they can continue their children's learning at home.
- Staff successfully support children's language and vocabulary. For example, babies use signs to help them communicate their thoughts and feelings to staff.
- Staff support children well to understand and respect the feelings of others. For instance, all children, including the younger ones, share their feelings in a whole group session verbally or use sign language. Children display thoughtfulness, such as getting toys for their friends so they can join their games.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The organisation of snack times does not effectively support all children to do things for themselves and to make healthy choices. Younger children who normally behave well wait too long for snacks and start to display some unwanted behaviour.
- Staff do not encourage all children to develop a positive view of learning outside.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of snack times to further develop children's ability to do things for themselves and to ensure routines support their good behaviour. Ensure the drinks children have are healthy
- encourage all children to develop positive attitudes towards learning outdoors, to support their good health and help them access a wider curriculum.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children and staff taking part in a variety of indoor and outdoor activities, and evaluated the quality of teaching.
- The inspector talked with the provider, one of the managers, staff and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector interviewed and conducted a joint observation with the provider.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including records relating to children's progress and safeguarding.
- The inspector talked with parents and took into account their views.

Inspector

Rebecca Martin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff know the signs that would cause concern and the correct procedures to follow in the event of a safeguarding issue. The management team supports staff's professional development well. Regular monitoring of staff practice leads to carefully selected training that maintains good quality outcomes for children. For example, recent training to support children's emotional development has helped staff to support children more to manage their feelings well and develop good social skills. Children show kindness towards others. Minor disputes are sorted with minimal adult intervention and the children have good relationships.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff encourage children to think for themselves and explain their thoughts. For instance, they ask children how they can fix ripped boxes and encourage deeper explanations. This successfully supports children's communication and helps them to solve problems. Children confidently select resources and activities. Babies select books to look at by themselves and turn the pages of the book to find out what happens next. Precise assessments and staff's good knowledge of children's stages of development mean staff re-shape activities well to meet children's learning needs. They skilfully question children and make suggestions that support further learning. For example, staff encourage older children to write Christmas cards to people that are special to them to support their early literacy development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

A well-established key person system means all staff know the children well. They regularly interact with parents and other settings children attend, to share children's learning and successfully meet their needs. Staff are attentive and responsive to all children, and help babies and younger children especially to settle into the nursery. For example, the child's key person or deputy always greets children and parents as they arrive to provide consistency. Children display good social skills. They welcome other children as they arrive and ask them and staff to join in their play. Children develop good physical skills. For instance, toddlers learn to drop a ball and kick it as it falls, showing good coordination.

Outcomes for children are good

All children achieve the expected stage of development for their age, including funded children and those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. They are prepared well for their next stage of learning, including starting school. For example, children independently count objects accurately and compare sizes in their play. Babies explore their environment and are curious and active learners.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY457707
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	1063268
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	35
Name of registered person	Frances Clare Spencer
Registered person unique reference number	RP903230
Date of previous inspection	16 September 2013
Telephone number	01271858801

Lovacott Nursery is a privately owned setting and registered in 2013. It operates within the village of Lovacott, near Torrington, in Devon. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.45am to 5.30pm, closing for a week during the Easter and Christmas holidays. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education to children aged three and four years. The nursery employs 11 members of staff to work with the children. Of these, two hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 5 and three hold qualifications at level 3. The provider has qualified teacher status.

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