

The Carlton Day Nursery

The Carlton Centre, Outer Circle Road, Lincoln, LN2 4WA



Inspection date	2 August 2017
Previous inspection date	30 May 2014

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

- Safeguarding is given high priority. The manager and staff have a very good knowledge of how to safeguard children. The manager uses different techniques to ensure that staff know their roles and responsibilities well.
- The qualified staff assess children's achievements accurately. Activities are planned well to help support children to achieve the best they can.
- Children and their parents get to know their key person well. Children clearly enjoy attending this nursery. This helps them to grow in confidence and feel emotionally secure.
- Staff establish good relationships with parents. They keep them well informed about their children's progress. Parents appreciate the warm and welcoming staff.
- Staff work well in partnership with parents and other professionals to support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. This helps them to achieve well.
- Children behave very well and they have good manners. Staff are good role models for children. They use positive language and give gentle reminders about expectations for their behaviour.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff do not focus fully on extending children's learning to a higher level.
- The monitoring of staff's practice is not focused on improving teaching skills to the highest level.
- The current system for analysing the progress made by different groups of children is not fully embedded.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- refine teaching to provide even more challenge and help all children extend their learning
- strengthen the monitoring of staff's practice, to help raise the quality of teaching and enhance their skills even further
- strengthen the current arrangements for comparing the progress made by different groups of children to maintain their good progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching 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 nominated person. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents and looked at written testimonials during the inspection, taking account of their views.

Inspector

Sharon Alleary

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Robust recruitment and ongoing checks ensure staff are suitable to work with children. Staff speak positively about the opportunities the manager provides for continuous professional development. The manager allocates additional funding well. For example, she has purchased outdoor equipment for children to practise their physical skills. This helps to close gaps in this aspect of children's learning effectively. The manager gathers the views of staff, parents and children in order to evaluate the quality of the provision and plan future developments.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff find out information from parents when children first start about their care needs and what children already know and can do. Staff use this to identify what children need to learn next. Children have opportunities to make marks in a variety of ways, such as using chalk on the path and exploring slime with their fingers. Staff encourage children to engage in imaginative play. They help them to build a train track and engage them in conversations about a time when they have been on a train. This helps to promote children's communication and language well. Staff play an active part in encouraging children to be creative. They sit in the audience of a 'show' while children confidently play instruments and sing songs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have their care needs met effectively. Staff and parents work closely together to support children's specific needs, such as toilet training. The rooms are clean and well planned with good-quality resources. They create inviting environments for babies and older children where they can develop their independence. Children enjoy fresh air and physical exercise every day, whatever the weather. Babies and toddlers wear all-weather suits and wellington boots and splash in puddles. Children develop an awareness of keeping themselves safe, such as wearing a helmet when riding a balance bike. The staff have developed effective partnerships with local schools. This helps to ensure that children benefit from a smooth transition when it is time for them to move on.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in relation to their individual starting points, including those who receive funded early education. Children who speak English as an additional language are supported well by staff. Babies join in with and follow the actions of songs and rhymes. Furthermore, babies develop good physical skills, climbing and sliding on the indoor equipment. Older children know what letter their name begins with and can write their own name. Children develop the skills they need to support their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY264343
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	1101927
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 - 4
Total number of places	64
Number of children on roll	83
Name of registered person	For Under Fives Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP907030
Date of previous inspection	30 May 2014
Telephone number	01522 787070

The Carlton Day Nursery registered in 2004. The nursery employs 22 members of childcare staff. Of these, 21 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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