

Koala Kidz Ltd - Stanton Farm



Stanton Farm Day Nursery, Ely Road, Waterbeach, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, CB25 9NN

Inspection date	15 November 2017
Previous inspection date	26 November 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 experienced manager and the dedicated staff work well together. They provide a warm, caring and positive environment where children are happy and very well cared for.
- Staff have an in-depth understanding of what children know and can do. They accurately assess what children need to learn next and plan activities that reflect the interests and needs of each child. Children are well prepared for the next stage of their learning.
- Children's communication and language skills are promoted very well. Staff provide children with many opportunities to talk about their ideas and interests. Children demonstrate a keen interest in books and listen attentively to stories.
- Staff work closely with parents to support children's learning. They keep them well informed about children's achievements. Parents are very complimentary about the nursery and the staff.
- The nursery garden is an exciting play space. Children spend long periods exploring nature and they take acceptable risks as, for example, they clamber along tree trunks.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Managers do not actively seek the views of parents to enhance the self-evaluation process and drive continuous improvement.
- The managers' systems to supervise and support staff are not focused firmly enough on evaluating and extending their teaching skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- involve parents more thoroughly in the self-evaluation process to gain a wider view of where to enhance the provision and drive continuous improvement
- broaden arrangements for monitoring staff practice to help identify professional development opportunities that enhance staff's teaching skills to the highest level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff during the activities and evaluated the quality of teaching and the support provided for children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with a senior member of staff.
- The inspector spoke to staff, children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views. She had a meeting with one of the owners of the nursery and the manager.
- A range of documents were looked at, including evidence of staff qualifications and their suitability, children's records and some policies and procedures. The inspector also discussed the nursery's self-evaluation.
- The inspector looked at the premises indoors and outdoors and the resources available to the children.

Inspector

Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager has good systems for staff recruitment and induction. Staff regularly attend child protection training to update their knowledge of safeguarding procedures. They have a thorough understanding of the signs of child abuse and the risks to children posed by the inappropriate use of mobile phones or social media. Staff make regular checks of the premises and ensure children play in a safe and secure environment. They encourage children to think about their own safety as, for example, they discuss why they practise the fire drill. Staff have developed two-way partnerships with other settings the children attend and regularly share information with them. They work well with other agencies, such as speech and language specialists, to support those children who need extra help.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Resources are plentiful and well organised. Children move around the nursery freely and make independent choices about their activities. They play imaginatively with small animals and figures. Older children make complex models from bricks and are adept at sorting objects according to their size, colour or shape. Staff skilfully ask children questions to encourage them to think about what they are doing and what they want to achieve. They respond well to children's spontaneous interests. For example, when worms are found under a log staff introduce bug boxes and magnifiers to help the excited children examine the creatures more closely.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children thrive in this small and friendly nursery. They develop warm and affectionate relationships with staff and clearly feel safe and secure. Staff treat children with respect and encourage them to be polite and to consider the needs of others. Children behave very well and demonstrate that they know how to share and take their turn. Children's varied backgrounds are celebrated. Staff learn key words from their home languages and help children to share their special events and festivals. Children benefit from freshly cooked meals that are healthy and nutritionally balanced. They help to grow fruit and vegetables, and learn where some of their foods come from.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop the skills they need for their eventual move on to school. They have good independence skills. Even the youngest toddlers attempt to take off their own coats and wellingtons after outdoor play. Older children consistently follow good hygiene routines. Children confidently engage with adults and form strong friendships with their peers. They practise early writing with interest, such as making marks in soil or writing the letters of their name on their artwork. Children have many opportunities to develop their physical skills indoors and outdoors.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY261361
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1064437
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	24
Number of children on roll	15
Name of registered person	Koala-Kidz Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP907044
Date of previous inspection	26 November 2013
Telephone number	01223 860263

Koala Kidz Ltd - Stanton Farm is one of two day nurseries owned by Koala Kidz Ltd. The nursery operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday with the exception of bank holidays. The nursery provides funded early education places for eligible two-, three- and four-year-old children. There are currently four staff working directly with the children. Of these, three have early years qualifications at level 3 and 4.

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