

Chelmsford YMCA Day Nursery

Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1NZ



Inspection date	27 September 2018
Previous inspection date	21 May 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- All staff are nurturing and build secure bonds with children in this welcoming nursery. The effective key-person system fully supports children to swiftly settle and make a seamless move between rooms.
- Staff make the most of the local environment to enhance children's experiences. Children learn about the change in seasons during nature walks. They visit an interactive centre to support them to solve problems. Staff embrace children's interests in trains as they observe these passing the nursery frequently throughout the day. They organise for children to travel on a train to the beach.
- Staff form strong partnerships with parents and involve them in every aspect of their children's learning. Parents receive detailed feedback about their children's good progress and the activities they have enjoyed. They feel that themselves and their children belong to the 'nursery family' and describe the staff as 'very loving and attentive'.
- The management team and staff are reflective and regularly evaluate the provision they offer. Their commitment helps to drive forward identified areas for improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Supervision meetings to support staff practice are not highly focused on strengthening the good quality of teaching to the highest level.
- Staff do not fully support children who speak English as an additional language to enhance their early speaking skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the system for monitoring staff practice to help raise the quality of teaching to an even higher level
- strengthen the opportunities for children to develop and use their home language in the nursery.

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 one of the room leaders.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and deputy manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector
Lorraine Pike

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff are aware of the procedures for identifying and responding to any concerns about a child's welfare. The manager is very knowledgeable and experienced to fulfil her role as designated lead for safeguarding children. Robust recruitment and induction procedures ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children. The management team monitors children's progress thoroughly and takes swift action to address any gaps in children's learning. Staff receive good training opportunities. Recent training has increased staff's awareness of new ideas to provide children with an enhanced learning environment.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children thoroughly enjoy exploring the varied range of stimulating equipment in the sensory room. Older children run their fingers through the fibre optic tubes and watch in fascination as these frequently change colour. Staff introduce babies to new words and consistently respond to their babbles and early vocalisations. This helps them to learn the pattern of conversation. Babies scoop up runny dough with their hands and smile with delight as they discover how it drips through their fingers. Staff encourage younger children to complete complex puzzles. Group time is a positive experience for older children. Staff are enthusiastic and use good intonation in their voice to help extend children's listening and attention skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

All staff are positive role models. Children develop friendly relationships with each other. They behave well and use good manners without being reminded to do so. Mealtimes are a social occasion as babies and younger children sit together. Staff use this opportunity to help children to understand the importance of a healthy diet. Older children eagerly complete age-appropriate responsibilities. Staff frequently praise children for their achievements. This helps them to have a positive attitude to learning and boosts their self-esteem. All children develop good physical skills. Babies persevere pulling themselves up to a standing. Older children increase their control and coordination as they throw beanbags into hoops positioned at different distances.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are motivated and independent individuals. Babies feed themselves from a young age and older children confidently manage their own personal needs. Older children link sounds to the letters that they write. Children count and solve mathematical problems. They are beginning to understand the concept of time, for example, they use words, such as 'yesterday' and 'tomorrow' in the correct context. All children gain the skills needed to help prepare them for their future learning at school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	203765
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10059466
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	0 - 10
Total number of places	85
Number of children on roll	99
Name of registered person	Chelmsford Y.M.C.A. (Trading) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP520389
Date of previous inspection	21 May 2014
Telephone number	01245 355677

Chelmsford YMCA Day Nursery registered in 1993 and is one of 11 settings run and managed by Chelmsford YMCA (Trading) Limited. It employs 14 members of childcare staff. Of these, 12 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery operates from 7.30am until 6pm, five days a week, all year round. It provides funded early education for two- and three-year-old children. The out of school provision operates from 7.30am until 9am and from 3.15pm until 6pm, five days and week, during term time only.

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