

Countryside Pre-School Nursery



Little Canfield Village Hall, Stortford Road, Little Canfield, Dunmow, Essex, CM6 1SW

Inspection date	12 July 2018
Previous inspection date	10 March 2015

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

- Children enjoy a wealth of interesting activities that ignites their curiosity and helps them to make good progress. Babies explore many sensory activities. They enjoy using their hands to move foam around on a large tray. All children develop a good understanding of the world. They help to plant and nurture a varied range of fruit and vegetables in the nursery's dedicated allotment area.
- Children demonstrate that they feel very happy and confident in this welcoming nursery. They form warm and secure bonds with their key person and all members of staff. Babies giggle with delight as their key person sings them songs. Older children proudly share their achievements with staff and authorised visitors.
- The management team and staff are reflective and regularly evaluate the provision they offer. Their commitment helps them to drive forward identified areas for improvement.
- Staff implement successful arrangements to help children to settle swiftly into the nursery and when they move rooms. Secure partnerships with schools and other providers that children move on to enable children to build early relationships with their new teachers.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Systems for monitoring some staff practice are not highly focused on strengthening the good quality of teaching to the highest level.
- The management team and staff have not fully explored opportunities for all parents to share information about their children's learning and development at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the monitoring of all staff practice to help raise the quality of teaching to the highest level
- extend the good communication with parents to support them to share information about their children's learning and development at home.

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 owner.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and owner. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection, read written feedback provided and took account of their views.

Inspector

Lorraine Pike

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff are very aware of the procedures for identifying and responding to any concerns about a child's welfare. Staff work closely with other professionals to successfully support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. 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 how children positively respond to them being very good role models. Secure working partnerships with staff at other settings that children attend support children's continuity in learning. Parents appreciate the 'home-from-home' environment that staff offer and describe the consistent staff team as 'brilliant'.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide children with stimulating indoor and outdoor areas to learn and explore. They effectively support children's communication and language skills. Group time is a positive experience for older children. Staff help them to develop good listening and attention skills and actively listen to what children have to say. This motivates children to use complex sentences to recall previous experiences. Staff introduce babies to new words and consistently respond to their babbles. This helps them to learn the pattern of conversation. Children respond well to staff's challenging questions that help to further develop their thinking skills. Children use their imagination. They mould birthday cakes for their friends from soil using their hands and small tools. Staff effectively support children who speak English as an additional language to make good progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children use good manners and play harmoniously together. Babies are keen to share their experiences with staff and visitors. Staff skilfully help all children to learn about similarities and differences. Children develop good physical skills. Older children join in with obstacle courses and staff encourage babies to pull themselves up on sturdy equipment to help develop the strength in their legs in preparation for walking. Staff provide children with good opportunities to assess their own risks.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are independent individuals. Babies persevere feeding themselves. Older children manage their own personal needs and outer clothing. Children express a keen interest in books and understand the structure of stories. They solve mathematical problems. For instance, they work out the amount of toy wheels they need so they all have an equal amount. All children gain the skills needed to help prepare them for their future learning at school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY299391
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1092197
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	92
Name of registered person	Susan Brown
Registered person unique reference number	RP909576
Date of previous inspection	10 March 2015
Telephone number	07860381847

Countryside Pre-School Nursery registered in 1987. It employs nine members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including one member of staff who holds qualified teacher status. The nursery operates from 7.30am until 6pm from Monday to Friday all year round. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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