

Bellaclaire Childcare Ltd

99 & 101 High Street, Longstanton, Cambridge, CB24 3BT



Inspection date

16 April 2018

Previous inspection date

1 June 2017

	This inspection:	Good	2
The quality and standards of the early years provision			
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- Since the last inspection, the providers and staff have given high priority to reflecting on and evaluating all aspects of their practice. They set ongoing action plans to help them to continually develop their knowledge and teaching skills, and this has a positive impact on outcomes for children's learning and development.
- Staff make regular observations and assessments of children's learning. They use these effectively to inform planning and support children's ongoing good progress. Staff regularly share children's development records with parents and with any other settings that children attend. This helps to promote continuity in children's learning.
- Children have many opportunities to learn about the natural world. For example, they look at flowers through magnifying glasses and describe what they can see. When they cut flower stems, they describe the smell as 'like the garden'.
- Parents speak highly of the staff and appreciate the nurturing care they provide. They say this helps children to feel safe and secure. They feel the good education the children receive prepares them well for starting school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, younger children in the pre-school room do not have the same opportunities to be actively involved in adult-led activities as the older children.
- Staff often answer questions for children, and do not give them adequate time to find solutions to any problems they encounter.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide further opportunities for younger pre-school children to take an active role in adult-led activities
- increase the opportunities for children to develop their critical-thinking skills further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff teaching and interactions with children, indoors and outside, and accompanied a group of children and staff on a walk to the local park.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children and held a meeting with one of the providers.
- The inspector observed an adult-planned activity with a senior member of staff, and held a discussion with her about children's learning.
- The inspector looked at a sample of paperwork, including staff qualifications and suitability checks. The safeguarding policies and procedures were also seen.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents, read written feedback from other parents, and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a robust knowledge and understanding of the signs and symptoms that may indicate concerns about children's safety and welfare. Staff regularly complete safeguarding training and understand how to swiftly refer concerns both within the setting and to relevant agencies. The providers follow rigorous recruitment procedures, to help ensure staff are suitable to work with children. Providers monitor staff performance through supervisory meetings. Staff receive targeted professional development opportunities and talk about the positive impact training has had on their understanding of how children learn and develop. The providers and staff observe each other leading activities and give constructive feedback. This helps all members of staff to continually improve their teaching skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The motivated staff team has a good understanding of how children learn. Staff organise the environment successfully, providing plenty of opportunities for children to make independent choices and initiate their own play. For example, babies enjoy exploring sand. Staff enable them to experience the sand in different ways, such as digging with spades or finding out how it feels on their bare feet. Staff teach children about different aspects of the world. For example, they set up experiments to explore how volcanos erupt and teach them how to grow fruit and vegetables. Staff gather comprehensive information from parents and use this information effectively, to help identify children's starting points in learning. They successfully track children's ongoing development and this helps them to close any emerging gaps in their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children show high levels of independence and develop good self-care skills. Staff encourage children to complete tasks for themselves, such as at snack times and when using the bathroom. Children are keen to show others how to use tools successfully, such as when chopping fruit. Children have many opportunities to be outdoors. The staff recognise that children do not have a lot of space in the garden to engage in energetic physical activity. Each day they take children to local parks or fields where they have ample space to run and play freely in large outdoor spaces. This has positive benefits on children's health and well-being. Staff are caring and attentive, such as recognising when babies need their comforters and readily providing these, to help them to feel secure.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are developing into independent learners. They are well prepared for their next stages of learning and ultimately for school. Babies learn about space and shape, as they play with shape sorters. They show pride in their ability, as they clap their hands when they succeed. Children learn how to gain information from books, such as about volcanos. They are keen to learn more and ask enquiring questions, such as about why and how volcanos erupt.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY486152
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1100528
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	70
Name of registered person	Bellaclaire Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP534337
Date of previous inspection	1 June 2017
Telephone number	01954789745

Bellaclaire Childcare Limited registered in 2015. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 7.30am until 6pm all year round, apart from one week in August. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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