

The Cottage Private Day Nursery (Uttoxeter Road)

The Cottage Private Day Nursery, Uttoxeter Road, Mickleover, DERBY, DE3 9AX



Inspection date

24 March 2016

Previous inspection date

18 August 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The manager and deputy set extremely high expectations for children's learning and the quality of teaching. Staff are very passionate for children to succeed and they share the leadership team's drive and ambition.
- Children's progress is excellent. Staff quickly identify and address any gaps in children's knowledge and understanding. There are extremely rigorous procedures to measure the achievement of all groups of children and to build strongly on earlier learning.
- Children enjoy an outstanding range of exciting and highly engaging experiences. Resources are attractive, colourful and stimulating. Staff have an excellent knowledge of how young children learn and develop. They match activities very closely to children's independent needs. The staff help them make significant gains in their self-confidence, self-awareness and readiness to learn.
- Children's behaviour is excellent. Staff are outstanding role models for children to follow. Children work together to set rules for their games, which they follow closely. They are very kind and thoughtful towards each other.
- Children are safe and very well protected. They learn and play in an extremely motivating environment. Staff respond quickly to children's emotional needs. Children learn to make their own decisions and to express their thoughts and ideas.
- Staff establish excellent relationships with parents. Parents are extremely well informed about children's achievements and receive very good guidance to help them support children's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop innovative ways for children who prefer to play and learn outdoors to build further on their very good thinking and problem-solving skills.

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 completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager. He looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Andrew Clark

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Procedures for rapidly and consistently strengthening all aspects of staff's professional development are extremely rigorous and imaginative. The leadership team very efficiently gathers the views of parents, children and staff to thoroughly evaluate the nursery's effectiveness and plan for future improvement. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff apply their knowledge extremely well to create a secure and exciting learning environment. The nursery provides an immensely rich and stimulating curriculum. For example, they make exceptional use of specialist skills to provide inspiring opportunities for children to learn dance and modern foreign languages. The leadership team rigorously reviews the progress of all learners to identify any variations in achievement and takes action to ensure all children make rapid progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff interact extremely well with children of all abilities to help them make rapid progress. They ask very thought-provoking questions. Staff help children to extend their understanding and reasoning. Children develop exceedingly positive attitudes to learning. For example, they raise their own very well-considered questions to help them learn about a chicken. They make excellent use of reference books to find answers. The leadership team has identified opportunities to build further on children's strong thinking and problem-solving skills, particularly for those who choose to play and learn outside. The teaching of basic literacy and numeracy skills is excellent. Disabled children and those with special educational needs receive very strong support that is carefully matched to their learning and development needs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are polite and very well behaved. They respond very positively to the excellent example staff set. Children learn to make decisions about their play. They show imagination in their play and sustain interest for long periods. Babies rapidly acquire the confidence to explore the different toys around them and to play alongside others. Older children participate in creating their own games. For example, they use large stepping stones as an obstacle course and develop their own rules for fair play. Children play extremely well together and are keen to share their toys. Staff strongly promote children's understanding of healthy lifestyles. For example, they love finding out about dental hygiene from a staff member dressed as a giant toothbrush.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Staff help all children achieve extremely well in all areas of their learning. Children make excellent progress from their individual starting points. The staff ensure that children build the skills they need for their future learning. For example, staff help them to be highly inquisitive and make excellent use of pictures and charts so they can identify the plants in their gardening activities. Children's communication skills are very well developed. For example, the older children write independently in response to stories they hear and form their letters accurately. Children articulate their knowledge clearly. They have excellent recall of facts about farm animals and their babies.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY100960
Local authority	Derby, City of
Inspection number	848113
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 - 8
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	102
Name of provider	The Cottage Day Nurseries Limited
Date of previous inspection	18 August 2011
Telephone number	01332 515100

The Cottage Private Day Nursery (Uttoxeter Road) was registered in 2001. 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. The nursery supports disabled children, those who have special educational needs and those who speak English as an additional language. The nursery employs 18 members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above.

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