

Sawston Nursery

Tannery Road, Sawston, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, CB22 3UW



Inspection date	23 February 2018
Previous inspection date	6 August 2014

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 develop close and affectionate bonds with caring and attentive staff. They enjoy their time in the nursery and demonstrate they feel safe and secure.
- Staff make regular assessments of children's development. They swiftly identify where children need extra help and address any gaps in their learning effectively. This helps all children to make good progress from their starting points.
- The managers and staff are experienced and knowledgeable. Training is valued and there is a strong commitment to professional development that enhances their teaching skills.
- Children develop a good understanding of the importance of healthy lifestyles. They have daily opportunities to be active indoors and outdoors and learn about the benefits of eating a balanced diet.
- Staff promote children's language development particularly well. They spend time talking to the children and encouraging conversations. Young children enjoy story times and older children learn to link letters with the sounds they make.
- Children develop a good understanding of their local community. Staff are proactive in taking children on local walks. They introduce them to other members of the community, such as residents of a nearby care home, and teach children about the world around them.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff do not consistently respond to opportunities that arise during activities to inspire, enthuse and challenge children to extend their learning as much as possible.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support staff to respond to and build on all opportunities to extend children's learning and promote outstanding progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children during their activities to evaluate the quality of teaching. She carried out a joint observation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and other members of the management team. The self-evaluation was looked at and discussed.
- The inspector looked at essential documentation, including evidence of the suitability of staff, the training programme and children's records.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback and the results of surveys.
- The inspector looked at all areas of the nursery indoors and outside. She spoke to children and staff at appropriate times.

Inspector

Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The nursery is led well by the experienced manager and her well-qualified team. The retention of staff is very good and morale is high. Staff work with enthusiasm and build positive relationships with parents, children and other professionals. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a thorough understanding of their safeguarding responsibilities. All attend child protection training regularly and their knowledge is reviewed and consolidated at team and supervisory meetings. Staff know the procedures to follow if a child is at risk of harm. Parents' views are sought to help managers and staff develop the quality of the provision. Managers have effective systems to track the progress that children make in their learning. Close links with local schools help staff to support children as they prepare to move into their Reception classes.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children confidently move around their rooms and access the plentiful resources. Staff give children time to make choices and follow their interests. They plan activities that ignite children's interest. For example, they freeze toy dinosaurs into ice 'eggs' and encourage children to find out if warm or cold water melts the ice effectively. Parents receive regular updates on their children's development. Staff provide useful guidance to help parents complement children's learning at home. Children's understanding of mathematical concepts is promoted well. Staff use knowledge gained from recent training to help children learn about weight, quantity and size.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide children with a homely environment. They greet children warmly on their arrival to make them feel welcome. Staff spend time with parents when children first start to get to know them and their family. They quickly develop a good understanding of each child's individual needs and meet them well from the outset. Children behave well. They display good manners and have kind and caring attitudes towards each other. Staff manage minor disputes with skill and help children to understand the importance of sharing and taking turns.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop the key skills they will need for the next stage of their learning. Older children demonstrate good independence skills as, for example, they serve themselves at mealtimes. Younger children learn to find their coats and boots ready for outdoor play. Children handle writing materials with confidence. They draw with pencils and use their fingers to make marks in paint. Children assess risks during their activities. For example, they check the garden for hazards and recognise nettles and brambles in the woods.

Setting details

Unique reference number	221629
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1103213
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	68
Number of children on roll	116
Name of registered person	Sawston Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP517202
Date of previous inspection	6 August 2014
Telephone number	01223 472018

Sawston Nursery registered in 2001. The nursery employs 36 members of childcare staff. Of these, 31 hold relevant childcare qualifications between level 2 and level 6. One staff member holds qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for public holidays and one week at Christmas. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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