

Lodge Cottage Nursery School



Manor Road, North Wootton, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 3PZ

Inspection date 29 June 2015
Previous inspection date 20 September 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children's love of books and outdoor learning is superbly promoted. They sit under a tree, reading books they have chosen with an adult, who encourages their curiosity and conversation, helping them to learn from each book they share.
- Children relish creating their own paint colours using the colour charts they have made. They learn that red and yellow make orange. Adults join children, skilfully asking questions to support their creative thinking and to inspire their explorations.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are offered sensitive, nurturing care that recognises and fosters their strengths. Adults provide them with an inclusive and exceptionally worthwhile early learning experience.
- Assessment of children's progress is frequent, precise and effectively informs planning to match their specific next steps in learning. The nursery routinely goes above and beyond, such as carrying out additional assessments of children's progress, which are specific to each child.
- Children develop a love of nature as they sit under the oak tree, to listen to the sounds of insects in the branches above and watch the nesting blue tits. They comment on the hills created by the moles in the garden.
- The owner is dedicated to the provision of a highly beneficial nursery experience for all children attending. Safeguarding is prioritised. The recruitment and induction procedures ensure only suitable adults work with children.
- Children's well-being is extremely well promoted. Children use the wonderful indoor and outdoor learning areas confidently as they follow their own interests, for example, playing in the dens created by mature shrubs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend even further the already excellent partnership with children's primary carers and the range of strategies used, to continue to ensure all feel welcome and included.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the nursery with the manager.
- The inspector observed activities taking place throughout the day and made an evaluation of teaching practice seen with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and spoke with adults and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a selection of children's records, policies, procedures and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of practitioners working within the nursery and the provider's self-evaluation evidence.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Deborah Hunt

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

The exceptional quality of teaching is just one part of the unique package of care and support offered. Adults intuitively and sensitively encourage children's independence, foster their curiosity and instil a love of learning. Children make full use of the inspirational indoor and outdoor learning environments. They take their socks and shoes off to paddle in the water, as they explore the concept of sinking and floating with boats they have made. Children search for ways to attach a sail to their boats and learn words, such as anchor. Adults prompt children to test their own theories on how to make the sails stand up on their own. Children's literacy develops superbly as they learn poems. They write their own verses, which are displayed and parents are invited in, listening proudly as children recite them. Children's entire, highly individualised experiences help them acquire a superb range of skills to support their future education. Mathematical knowledge grows through activities which incorporate counting, shape recognition and language to describe mathematical concepts. Many children routinely recognise letters and sounds and are beginning to write their names, which they see regularly in the environment.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Children settle easily because they respond well to the nurturing home-from-home environment offered. Adults superbly support their emotional well-being. Sensitive management of children's initial days at the nursery and the carefully considered information gathered means adults are keenly aware of children's individual needs. Parents and adults develop a highly collaborative approach to children's care and learning. Adults teach children the value of a healthy lifestyle, for instance, by growing and tasting their own produce. They encourage children to own their environment. For example, children create a large wall display depicting nursery rhymes from which they choose songs to sing each day. The wide range of activities children enjoy in this richly-resourced environment create memorable experiences they will recall in years to come.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

The dedicated owner and her equally committed team thoroughly understand their responsibilities in implementing all requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Rigorous arrangements enable precise monitoring of the educational programmes and children's progress. The well-qualified adults undertake continuous training. They take part in regular appraisals to further improve their first-rate practice as part of the overall drive for excellence. Parents' views are highly valued, inform plans for improvement and parental feedback is extremely positive. They comment that the overall running of the nursery is 'Fantastic' and say that it 'Really is a home-from-home environment'. Parents are highly involved in all aspects of their children's development and there are plans in place to develop this even further. Partnerships with other professionals are excellent, ensuring that children's individual needs are exceptionally well met.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY368613
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	873710
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	38
Name of provider	Lodge Cottage Nursery School Ltd
Date of previous inspection	20 September 2010
Telephone number	01553 631263

Lodge Cottage Nursery School was registered in 2007. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one with a BA (hons) degree in early childhood studies and Early Years Practitioner Status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday during school term times only. Sessions are from 8.30am until 4pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. They support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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