

The Rocking Horse Childcare Centre

Kingsway, Kirkby-in-Ashfield, NOTTINGHAM, NG17 7FH



Inspection date

11 May 2017

Previous inspection date

9 June 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

- The well-qualified staff team use their knowledge of young children well to promote their learning. They engage the children in play and support their investigations well.
- Children behave well. Staff are good role models who encourage them to share and take turns. Children learn good social skills. This contributes towards their future learning and the eventual move on to school.
- Children are happy and settled. They develop a good sense of belonging within the setting through staff, who nurture and care for children extremely well.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff regularly share children's achievements with parents and information on how to promote their child's learning at home.
- The management team is committed to providing a quality service for children and families. They use self-evaluation effectively to review the quality of their practice and identify future targets for improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Information from observations is occasionally not meticulously used to plan for individual children's next steps in learning, to make sure that they are challenged to make as much progress as possible in their learning.
- Staff do not always provide enough opportunities for younger children who prefer to learn outdoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use information gained from assessments to plan even more precisely for individual children's next steps in learning, providing all children with even more challenging opportunities to help them make rapid progress
- provide more challenge and extend the learning opportunities for younger children who prefer to play and learn outdoors.

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. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Lianne McElvaney

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Leaders demonstrate excellent awareness about safeguarding issues. They ensure that all staff keep up to date with any changes to safeguarding policy and practice. Staff benefit from regular monitoring of their practice. This includes supervision meetings and regular training, helping them to meet children's needs and support their professional development. The manager tracks children's progress. This helps staff to identify and immediately act on any concerns about a child and contributes towards their safety and welfare. Parents are very complimentary about staff and the level of care and education that children receive.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of teaching is good. Staff understand how to support children's learning and development and play alongside them effectively, extending their interests. Children enjoy looking at books and talking about the illustrations with staff. These discussions help children to learn about dinosaurs and their differences and similarities. Staff support children's language well. Effective strategies, such as repeating and extending what children are saying, help them to communicate confidently. Staff adapt their language well to support children's individual needs. Good information sharing with parents helps to promote children's learning. Staff gather good information about what children can do when they first start, which helps staff meet children's needs quickly and effectively.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide a welcoming and friendly environment for children and parents. They are warm and caring and offer children lots of support and praise. An effective key-person system is in place. Children's emotional well-being is given high priority. Settling-in arrangements and transitions to school are well planned and facilitated according to the individual needs of the child. Parents provide information about children's individual needs and staff keep them well informed about children's progress. Staff are very good role models. They use consistent praise and encouragement to promote children's confidence and self-esteem. Daily routines are well embedded in the setting. Children demonstrate their understanding of what comes next as they willingly participate in the 'tidy-up time' routine.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those eligible for funding, make good progress in all areas of learning. They are eager and motivated learners who enjoy their time in the nursery. These skills prepare children well for school when the time comes. Older children learn how to write some of the letters in their name with paint and develop their mathematical skills as they count how many pieces of fruit they have for a snack.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY283280
Local authority	Nottinghamshire
Inspection number	1091944
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	74
Number of children on roll	134
Name of registered person	The Rocking Horse Child Care Centres Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP910237
Date of previous inspection	9 June 2015
Telephone number	01623 408330

The Rocking Horse Childcare Centre registered in 2004 and is one of six privately owned settings. The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 5, two at level 4, four at level 3 and two at level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two, three and four year old children. The nursery supports children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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