

Inspection date	15 June 2018
Previous inspection date	30 April 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Managers are incredibly passionate about what they do. They have an excellent understanding of their responsibilities. Children's welfare and learning are promoted at an outstanding level.
- Staff prioritise children's safety. They effectively implement a range of supporting records and documents. The premises are incredibly safe and secure. The environment indoors and outside is clean, tidy and well organised. This helps to keep children safe.
- Staff are highly welcoming, warm and friendly. They get to know children very well from the outset. Children settle very quickly. They rapidly become familiar and confident in the environment, and they develop incredibly close bonds with staff.
- Staff are exceptional teachers. They provide an excellent balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities, indoors and outside. This helps to promote children's learning at the highest level.
- The curriculum is rich, varied and imaginative. Children are highly enthusiastic, motivated and keen learners. They readily become fully engrossed and easily absorbed in different activities.
- Partnership working is very strong. Staff work very closely with parents, other providers and professionals. This helps to foster excellent continuity in children's care and education.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to review and further enhance the already rigorous processes for monitoring staff's practice, specifically those new to their roles to help maintain excellent standards.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outside. She assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager of the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to staff and held a meeting with the nursery management team.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and checked evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Josephine Heath

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Managers are highly ambitious. They make excellent use of self-evaluation to set clear targets for future development. The majority of staff are highly qualified and managers ensure they benefit from a diverse range of opportunities to upskill. However, managers currently have plans in place to review and further enhance the already rigorous way they monitor staff's practice. This specifically refers to those new to their roles to help maintain excellent standards. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Managers and staff have excellent knowledge of child protection issues and they know how to handle different types of concerns. This helps to protect children from harm.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff make highly accurate observations and assessments of children's development. They make excellent use of what they know to plan and provide activities. For example, babies thoroughly enjoy investigatory experiences. They use and combine a range of resources, such as noisy toys, building bricks and paint. Toddlers delight in sensory play. They eagerly explore different textures, such as soil, sand and water. Young children relish imaginative games. They use a wide variety of props to develop role play, such as going on holiday. Managers rigorously monitor children's progress and carefully use the information obtained to help narrow any achievement gaps. Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities benefit from timely interventions and targeted support. All children progress extremely well from where they started.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children thrive as they are extremely well cared for at this nursery. Staff keep up to date of any changes to government healthy living guidance. They offer a great variety of nutritious snacks and meals. Staff promote excellent cleanliness routines. They also encourage children to take exercise. Babies delight in physical play in a ball pool and young children enjoy dance and movement sessions. Staff foster a calm and relaxing atmosphere. They promote respect and positive behaviours. Children follow the nursery routines and really enjoy the responsibility of small tasks. Staff find out about children's backgrounds, cultures and religions. They celebrate and value diversity through helping children learn about the world, including different languages, festivals and events.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children rapidly become highly successful learners equipped with all the essential skills they need for the next stage of their learning. For example, children are highly independent. They manage their self-care needs from an early age. Children have excellent communication skills. They listen attentively and follow direction during circle time sessions. They enjoy singing familiar songs and confidently share their ideas. Children enjoy group games. They play nicely and work well with their peers. Children develop strong literacy and numeracy skills. They experiment with mark making and share stories with their teachers. They also relish playing number matching games.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY469180
Local authority	Warwickshire
Inspection number	1102769
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 3
Total number of places	55
Number of children on roll	104
Name of registered person	Castle Nursery Kenilworth Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP910258
Date of previous inspection	30 April 2014
Telephone number	01926-856202

Castle Nursery registered in 2013. The nursery employs 35 members of staff. Of these, 25 hold appropriate early years qualifications. This includes five qualified teachers, one of whom is the nursery manager. The nursery operates all year around. Sessions are available from 7.30am until 6pm Monday to Friday. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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