

The Joint Colleges Nursery (Cambridge) Limited

6b Chaucer Road, CAMBRIDGE, CB2 7EB



Inspection date	7 September 2017
Previous inspection date	21 February 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

- Staff build strong relationships with children. They greet children and their parents warmly on arrival at the nursery. Key persons know their children well and tend to their individual care needs effectively.
- The quality of teaching is good. Staff provide a wide range of interesting learning experiences for children indoors and outdoors. The children are motivated and eager to develop new skills.
- The experienced and well-qualified manager has a secure vision for the nursery. The management committee is supportive and together they identify key areas to develop and drive continuous improvement.
- Staff help children who speak English as an additional language to develop their communication. They use baby signing to support the youngest children. They model and repeat language while playing alongside children, and help them to develop their range of vocabulary.
- Parents speak very highly of the nursery provision and the quality of care given to their children. They are happy that their children are making good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff work well in partnership with parents, they do not always obtain enough information about children's learning at home.
- Occasionally, staff working with younger children do not encourage children's individual expression enough in their creative play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the level of information obtained from parents to provide joined-up support for children's continued progress
- provide more opportunities for younger children to express their individual ideas during creative play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed a planned activity and jointly evaluated this with the manager.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector conducted meetings with the nursery manager to discuss management issues, safeguarding children, staff training and self-evaluation.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including accident records and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

Inspector

Jane Osburn

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff are aware of the correct procedures to follow if they have a concern about the welfare of a child. The committee and management team support safe recruitment and check the suitability of staff. Additional procedures are used to keep children safe. For example, accidents are monitored closely to identify any common causes. Staff receive good levels of support, for example, through regular supervision and team meetings. Training provides them with opportunities to develop their practice further. This has a positive impact on the outcomes for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff demonstrate a good knowledge of what interests the children. They use this information effectively to plan and provide activities. Children are happy and eager to join the play. Babies experience a range of sensory resources located in a safe and secure area of the room. Young children eagerly get involved when sharing books and staff bring the book to life successfully when reading the story. Older children carry out activities that build on their listening skills. They use puppets when singing songs or telling stories. Children are confident to contribute to the storyline of a familiar story. Staff identify opportunities to support the children in developing their mathematical skills. For example, they sing number songs to younger children and encourage older children to recognise shapes during their play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The key-person system is effective. Children settle quickly into nursery. Staff and parents work well together to support children's confidence and self-esteem. Children's behaviour is good. They share and take turns, and staff effectively support younger children who are still developing these skills. Children learn good hygiene procedures. They wash their hands before mealtimes and clear their own plates after lunch. All children have regular access to the outdoor space. For most of the day, they can choose whether they want to play indoors or outdoors. They experience a wide range of exciting activities to support their physical skills. In the garden used by the younger children, staff provide resources and equipment that supports them to develop strength in their legs in preparation for walking.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their individual starting points, including those who speak English as an additional language. They are motivated to take part in the wide range of activities and learn many skills that support their independence. Children gain the necessary skills they need to prepare them for their next stage of learning at school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	221578
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1087672
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	57
Number of children on roll	45
Name of registered person	The Joint Colleges Nursery (Cambridge) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP517145
Date of previous inspection	21 February 2014
Telephone number	01223 315 084

The Joint Colleges Nursery (Cambridge) Limited registered in 1987. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. There are 13 members of staff, including the manager, employed to work with the children, 11 of whom hold an appropriate childcare qualification. One member of staff holds qualified teacher status and two hold a qualification at level 6.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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