

Dandelion Education Limited

Marsham Cp School, High Street, Norwich, NR10 5AE



Inspection date	16 March 2017
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- The vision, dedication and commitment of the managers have created a unique and special environment for promoting children's learning. Children thrive in this stimulating outdoor nursery where they are free to play, explore, imagine and learn. Staff are passionate about their unique ethos and believe that all children deserve fun and meaningful learning experiences.
- Teaching is inspirational. All children make outstanding progress in their learning. Staff provide highly interesting, challenging and stimulating activities that cover all areas of learning.
- Children develop a superb understanding of how to manage risks and challenges relative to their age. For example, staff actively involve them in carrying out daily risk assessments of the nursery environment. They use scripts and songs to help children understand about keeping themselves safe.
- Parents are valued partners and are very enthusiastic to share their views of the nursery. They are extremely complimentary about the quality of the staff team and the exceptional progress their children are making. Families are encouraged to be actively involved in the children's learning.
- The managers are extremely passionate about the service they provide. They are ambitious and reflective, and continually identify areas that can be further enhanced. They actively seek and act upon, the views of staff, parents and children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue the excellent programme of training and qualifications for staff, in order to build on their professional development and to foster even greater achievements for children.

Inspection activities

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

Inspector

Jacqui Oliver

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The managers are extremely knowledgeable and enthusiastic. They have very high expectations of all children and staff. They are highly qualified and act as superb role models and mentors to the rest of the staff team. Regular supervision and monitoring of staff performance leads to consistency of outstanding practice across the nursery. The managers strive for excellence at all times and are ambitious in continuing to seek opportunities to strengthen their practice. Safeguarding is effective. Managers and staff have an excellent understanding of how to protect children. They have extensive knowledge of the current procedures to follow should they have any concerns about children's welfare. Robust recruitment procedures ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children. Stringent risk assessments cover all aspects of the setting, including children taking part in woodland activities and moving around the firepit. High staff ratios and good deployment help to ensure children are cared for in a safe and secure environment.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The managers and staff are immensely passionate about children's learning and development. They use a range of highly effective teaching techniques. This means that children are extremely motivated, eager to learn and fully engaged. Staff use questions successfully to extend children's thinking and problem-solving skills. For example, staff ask children if they would rather be friends with a duck or a crocodile. When children give different answers staff ask them if they can still be friends if they disagree. These discussions encourage children to value and respect each other's differences. Children enjoy celebrating each other's achievements.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children display a very strong sense of belonging in the nursery, as they play and explore with great confidence and independence. They form close attachments with the staff, which helps them to feel emotionally secure. Staff continually give frequent praise and encouragement, which effectively promotes their confidence and self-esteem. Children learn excellent practices for a safe and healthy lifestyle. The outdoor activities give children extensive opportunities to learn to use tools safely, recognise dangers and understand about boundaries. Children learn self-care routines, eat healthily and enjoy playing in the fresh air. Parents are given advice about which foods to include in their children's lunchboxes to encourage healthy eating.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children of all ages and abilities make outstanding progress. They flourish in the vibrant and stimulating learning environment. They are confident, motivated and are well prepared for their future learning, including their move on to school. Children's mathematical skills are promoted extremely well. They use natural resources to talk about size, weight and capacity, comparing quantities and solving problems. Children also develop excellent early reading and writing skills. They become very effective communicators and have a wealth of opportunities to develop their thinking skills. They are curious and have a strong exploratory impulse as they engage with the natural world.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY493046
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	1086775
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 6
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	45
Name of registered person	Dandelion Education Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP534232
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07795927008

Dandelion Education Limited was registered in 2015. The nursery employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. Both managers hold qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday and all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 4.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports children who speak English as an additional language and children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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