

# Curious Kittens Day Nursery (Kings Road)

City College Plymouth, Kings Road, Devonport, Plymouth, Devon, PL1 5QG



## Inspection date

31 May 2016

Previous inspection date

25 April 2012

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>Previous inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- The provider and staff team have a clear drive, overall, to make continuous improvements. The staff team works together very well, constantly reviewing the effectiveness of its practice, to identify areas for development.
- Overall, the quality of teaching is strong. Staff know their key children very well and plan interesting and stimulating activities that provide good challenge, to build on what they know and can do. Children make good progress in their learning.
- Partnerships with parents are effective. Staff regularly provide detailed information to enable some consistency in children's development, and routinely invite parents to contribute to this, such as when setting next steps in learning.
- Staff consistently make excellent use of a range of strategies to help children understand the expectations and boundaries. Children demonstrate exceptional behaviour, and form strong friendships with their peers using superb social skills.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- The provider does not always make the best use of assessments of children's learning to reflect on particular groups of children, to evaluate the impact of staff's teaching and sustain outstanding outcomes for children.
- Staff do not routinely share detailed information with other settings that children also attend, to enable them to promote continuity in their learning.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen monitoring systems even further to track the progress of individual and groups of children more effectively, to support all children to make even better progress
- establish stronger links with other settings that children attend, to promote greater consistency in promoting their learning.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the learning environments, and observed staff's interaction with children during planned activities and spontaneous play.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the provider and deputy manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, their parents and staff, through discussions.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and deputy manager at an appropriate time during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including children's learning records, staff suitability checks and risk assessments.

### Inspector

Sarah Madge

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The provider and staff have a robust understanding of child protection issues and the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. Staff carry out daily safety checks to review the suitability of the premises, to minimise significant hazards and risks to children. The provider monitors staff practice effectively overall, to ensure that all children receive good care and support. For example, they hold regular team meetings, and complete routine observations of staff's practice to assess the quality of teaching and outcomes for children. Staff make good use of their training to make changes to the learning environment and quality of teaching. For example, they now plan frequent opportunities for children to learn about nature and how to keep themselves safe, as they explore the woods.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff frequently record observations of children, to demonstrate their ongoing achievements. Children are excited and highly motivated to learn, and show creativity in their play. For example, they find different props to use as eye patches as they pretend to be pirates, and their friends write them 'messages' in bottles, to request they return the stolen 'treasure'. Staff interact very well with children, and use their skills effectively to promote children's listening and speaking skills. For instance, they often use signs as they talk, and consistently pause to allow children time to think about and give responses to questions. Children are self-assured in suggesting their ideas and trying them out, as they learn to solve problems. For example, children consider how to cut fruit, first choosing to try scissors and, when this is unsuccessful, deciding to use a knife.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff frequently reward children's efforts and achievements with highly enthusiastic praise, and children build very high levels of confidence and self-esteem. Staff teach all children to solve problems independently and play well together, to help them learn excellent social skills. For example, babies know to share toys with their friends. Children benefit from an extensive range of learning experiences, show great curiosity and thoroughly enjoy exploring with their senses. For instance, children smell, feel and look closely at fruit as they make flavoured water to drink. Children learn the importance of leading healthy lifestyles, such as when practising brushing a large set of teeth.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points and are ready for the move to school. For example, they competently count and recognise shapes, such as inside a piece of fruit when they cut it in half. Older children show extremely high levels of independence, make choices and use trial and error to test theories with confidence.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	117108
<b>Local authority</b>	Plymouth
<b>Inspection number</b>	825145
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	48
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	74
<b>Name of registered person</b>	City College Plymouth
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP517721
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	25 April 2012
<b>Telephone number</b>	01752 305345/ 01752 305872

Curious Kittens Day Nursery (Kings Road) registered at the present site in Devonport, Plymouth, in 1996. The nursery is open on weekdays between 8.15am and 5.30pm for 50 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. A staff team of 12 works with the children, all of whom hold childcare qualifications to level 3 or above. There is one member of staff who holds early years professional status.

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