

Woodlands Early Learning

108 Barnes Lane, Sarisbury Green, Southampton, SO31 7BJ



Inspection date	26 June 2017
Previous inspection date	8 January 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 friendly and communicative management team creates a home-from-home atmosphere where children, families and visitors feel very welcomed. High attention is paid to building very strong relationships.
- The management team demonstrates a strong commitment to the safeguarding of children. The team trains staff extremely well to understand their child protection procedures and take necessary action to keep accidents to a minimum in their large nursery.
- The staff know children extremely well and provide stimulating, purposeful play opportunities which build on their knowledge and skills. Children made good progress.
- Partnership with parents and other professionals is very strong. Parents praise the nursery highly and enjoy the activities on offer for the whole family, such as the annual 'Woodland Rocks' festival. The staff liaise very effectively with agencies to support children who have special educational needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff receive good support in their professional development, there is less emphasis on precisely enhancing their individual teaching skills to develop a high level of expertise across the team.
- At times, staff in the pre-school and rising fours group are not highly successful in offering challenging number problems to children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor the teaching skills of staff more closely and increase training and professional development opportunities to enable them to improve their knowledge and teaching to the highest level
- explore more ways to challenge children in their mathematical development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to children, observed the children's play activities indoors and outdoors, looked at the available resources and read relevant documentation.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team and the provider to discuss their leadership and management, including self-evaluation methods.
- The inspector spoke to a sample of parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Lorraine Wardlaw

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The staff have a confident understanding of their responsibilities, including following procedures to address concerns about a child's welfare and notifying Ofsted. Clear recruitment processes help to make sure that those working with children are suitable and remain so. The management team supports new staff well through a detailed induction. It ensures staff supervise children closely to support safety and follow policies that protect their welfare, such as those relating to the use of mobile phones. The team has an accurate view of the setting and encourages staff to self-evaluate their rooms and the child-led planning to identify improvement areas. The team seeks the views of parents and acts on information. Internal training, such as on staff interaction, helps the learning outcomes for children to remain strong.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children engage busily in play and learning. They benefit positively from their early years experience. Staff support children successfully in their learning journey to school from their varied starting abilities. They provide stimulating and welcoming play areas, indoors and outdoors, and good, adult attention to build on what children know and can do. For example, rising four-year-olds learn how to undress and dress themselves preparing for enjoyable outdoor physical play. Pre-school staff ask children skilful questions to extend their language and thinking skills, such as during pretend play in the travel agency. Staff in the two-year-old room enthusiastically engage children in a favourite story, emphasising their understanding and the words they want them to learn. Babies enjoy exploring the varied garden activities, such as the ball pit, supported by playful interaction from the staff.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide very good opportunities for children to enjoy regular, challenging exercise and to learn about healthy choices. Children relish their hot, nutritious midday meal, often having seconds. Staff encourage children to look after their health, for instance, to brush their teeth and take regular sleep. Children talk with confidence about the benefits of wearing hats and sun cream in the sun to keep safe. Babies reap the benefits of strong attachments to their key person and are cared for extremely well. Children's behaviour is very good; they fully understand the nursery rules. They take managed risks in their play, and, in the event of any accidents, staff act swiftly and give excellent advice to parents. A high percentage of staff are first-aid qualified; accident and existing injury records are complete and shared with parents.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are motivated, confident learners. For example, older children listen very well during whole group time, contributing their ideas. They talk with confidence, such as during social mealtimes, and take turns to serve their own food, gaining good personal independence skills. Two-year-old children talk about colours and sizes when they become excited during a foot painting activity with staff.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY273149
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	1100780
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	132
Number of children on roll	370
Name of registered person	Woodlands Early Learning Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP521816
Date of previous inspection	8 January 2014
Telephone number	01489 605495

Woodlands Early Learning nursery registered in 2004. It operates in Sarisbury Green, Hampshire. The nursery opens each weekday all year round from 7.30am until 6pm. Out-of-school care is offered from 7.30am to 8.50am and from 3.15pm to 6pm during term time, and from 7.30am until 6pm in the school holidays. The nursery employs 53 staff in total to work with the children. Of these, 45 hold appropriate early years qualifications ranging from level 2 to level 6. The manager has achieved early years professional status. The setting provides funded early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

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