

Mulberry Day Nursery

9 Boyn Hill Avenue, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 4ET



Inspection date

16 February 2015

Previous inspection date

8 August 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff complete regular assessments and observations on children which inform their planning and the next steps in children's learning. Therefore, activities link well to children's abilities and interests.
- Staff work well together and teaching is good. They provide a wide range of stimulating resources and activities which engage children well.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, and those learning English as an additional language, achieve well. This is because of good staff input that fully meets children's individual needs.
- Staff encourage parents to be involved in their children's learning from the beginning and throughout their child's time in the nursery. This helps to provide children with continuity in their learning and development.
- Managers effectively improve the performance of all staff so that they provide the best possible provision for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not take all opportunities to extend children's language abilities, or their counting and number recognition during some play routines and activities.
- Staff sometimes display print and pictures high up around the environment which means they are not fully effective as learning resources.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of all opportunities to develop children's language, and their counting and number recognition during everyday play activities
- improve opportunities for children to see and talk about print and pictures around the environment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children in their play, inside and outdoors, and in their interactions with staff.
- The inspector spoke to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and held meetings with the owner and deputy manager.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector toured the premises and checked risk assessment procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Tanisha Hodge

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Staff provide a good range of toys, equipment and activities which promote children's development across the seven areas of learning. However, occasionally, staff do not take all opportunities to extend children's language skills, and their counting and number recognition during some play activities. Consequently, not all children are fully participating and learning during such times. Nevertheless, at other times, staff question children effectively as they play which encourages them to think and respond. Some staff use their bilingual expertise well to support communication with parents and children. Staff encourage children to explore and learn well overall. For example, some children enjoy exploring the textures of sand and cornflour mixed with water, while others construct with wooden building blocks. Staff work well together in teams and plan on a weekly basis. As a result, activities are well matched to children's individual needs.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

The environment is safe and welcoming and most rooms have adjoining outdoor play areas which staff use to promote children's physical well-being. Staff offer parents and children unhurried settling-in sessions, allowing children to become familiar with their key person and the environment. Children enjoy healthy, nutritious meals which are prepared on the premises and staff talk to the children about being healthy. Staff are consistent role models, making their expectations clear to children, so children learn to share and take turns. Staff praise positive behaviour which boosts children's self-esteem. Staff provide a good range of resources overall. However, they do not consistently enable children to see and talk about displays of pictures and words around the nursery, such as those shown on posters. This is because staff position some of these high up which reduces learning opportunities. Staff encourage children's independence well in readiness for school.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The management and staff demonstrate a good understanding of their responsibilities to meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Staff attend safeguarding training and have a thorough knowledge of the policies and procedures they should follow to keep children safe. Performance management is robust and management makes effective use of self-evaluation to bring about improvement. Staff performance is well monitored, due to management supervising staff. This ensures that teaching is good, so that most children make expected progress. Parents are pleased with the provision and value the support of staff. They feel their children are happy and love the staff. Management has a good partnership with the local education officer. As a result, this ensures that staff maintain a high level of care and education for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	154888
Local authority	Windsor & Maidenhead
Inspection number	836798
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	78
Number of children on roll	125
Name of provider	Childbase Partnership Limited
Date of previous inspection	8 August 2011
Telephone number	01628 671116

Mulberry Day Nursery is one of 46 day nurseries owned and operated by Child Base Limited, which is a private company. This nursery registered in 2001. It is situated on the outskirts of Maidenhead town centre, close to the train station. The nursery is open Monday to Friday all year round, apart from public holidays. Opening times are from 7.30am to 6.30pm. The provider is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged three and four years. Children attend on a sessional or full-day basis. There are 25 members of staff working with the children. Of these, two staff, including the manager, hold Early Years Professional Status and 14 staff hold qualifications at level 3.

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