

Brue Farm Day Nursery

Brue Farm, Lovington, CASTLE CARY, Somerset, BA7 7PP



Inspection date

28 April 2015

Previous inspection date

4 March 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The management team has an inspiring commitment to providing the highest possible care and learning for children. The new manager has already carried out a full review of the provision and identified ways to enhance outcomes for children.
- The excellent communication between staff, parents, outside agencies and other early years providers significantly benefits children's learning and care. The nursery provides a nurturing environment. Children settle quickly and are extremely confident.
- Staff plan an exciting well-resourced environment to enable children to become independent learners, moving freely between the indoors and outdoors. In addition, staff maximise the use of the local community to enhance children's learning through real experiences. For example, they watch people milk cows, visit the bakery and cook on open fires in the forest area.
- Staff have an excellent knowledge of how to safeguard children, protect them from risks and keep them healthy. They provide outstanding role models, promoting children's physical and emotional well-being exceptionally well. Consequently, children thrive; learning the importance of safe and healthy practices.
- Staff are highly consistent in their observations, developing this aspect further since their last inspection. The accurate records enable staff to know the children exceptionally well. The manager seeks additional support to narrow gaps quickly. This means that all children make rapid progress, which successfully prepares them for school.
- Staff reinforce the golden rules daily and, as a result, children's behaviour is exemplary. They learn to share, listen to others and even the youngest children demonstrate their understanding of the adults' expectations. For example, when a bell rang they declared 'tidy up time'.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase the use of written words in the outdoor area to enhance children's literacy development further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector held a meeting with the owner and manager, and carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the nursery's self-evaluation and spoke with parents, children and staff present on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector checked safeguarding information and the premises.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies and procedures, children's development records and planning.

Inspector

Elaine Douglas

Inspection findings

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

The highly qualified and experienced team has an excellent understanding of how children learn and develop. There is a strong emphasis on children learning through exploration and discovery. In addition, staff follow children's lead and provide skilful interaction to build on what they already know and challenge them further. As a result, children solve problems, learn cause and effect, and thoroughly enjoy their learning. Staff choose the optimum time to carry out the activities they plan specifically for their key children. Children become engrossed in their learning and extend it further themselves. For example, some children asked to repeat an activity several times. Staff enabled the children to take over and lead it in their own way. Therefore, when other children showed an interest the children themselves explained what they needed to do. Staff support children extremely well in having outstanding foundations in their key areas of development. This provides excellent preparation for their next stage of development. Children use a wide range of resources to promote their literacy development, although there are fewer words for them to see and become familiar with outdoors.

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

The key-person system enables parents and children to choose which member of staff they bond with. As a result, children form extremely positive relationships. This also enables the honest exchange of information and provides children with a special person. As a result, children are emotionally secure. Staff help older children further in recognising and discussing their emotions. Parents comment positively on how all staff know the children as unique individuals. Staff seek extensive information to meet the needs of babies. Children are exceptionally confident and their independence is impressive because staff enable them to do as much as they can for themselves. They provide just the right amount of support for children to acquire new skills and develop high self-esteem.

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

The management team has a very clear vision for the nursery and their dedicated staff want to achieve the same excellent standards. The manager carries out regular supervision of staff. She supports staff observations and ongoing staff development to keep the standards high and continue to raise them. For example, through staff training on mathematics in the garden, they have improved this area of development further. This is extremely beneficial for those children who prefer to learn outdoors. The manager recognises the individual skills of her highly qualified team and utilises them extremely effectively. For example, the Early Years Professional is to have more time to work with the eldest children in preparing them for school and learning that is more formal.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY396818
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	822468
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	91
Name of provider	Katherine Claudia Farthing
Date of previous inspection	4 March 2010
Telephone number	01963 240 111

Brue Farm Day Nursery registered in 2009. It is situated in the village of Lovington, near Castle Cary, Somerset. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, from 7.30am to 6.00pm, all year round apart from bank holidays, Christmas and three inset days a year. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 15 members of staff including the owner. Of these, one holds Early Years Professional Status and two more hold qualifications at level 6. Two members of staff have early years qualifications at level 4 and nine hold qualifications at level 3. There is one member of staff who has an early years qualification at level 2 and is working towards a level 3.

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