

Building Blocks Nursery

Cherry Orchard Primary School, Cherry Orchard Road, Handsworth Wood,
Birmingham, B20 2LB



Inspection date

14 August 2017

Previous inspection date

16 April 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Leaders review the provision effectively and identify areas for improvement accurately. They value the views of parents, staff and children as part of the self-evaluation process. For example, children and parents were consulted about changes to the menu.
- Staff provide interesting activities that encourage children to explore and make new discoveries. For example, older children investigate the changes to soap when it is heated and cooled. Younger children enjoy using ice in their play and are interested as it melts and changes shape.
- Children arrive happily at the nursery. They are greeted warmly by the friendly staff, with whom they develop strong attachments. All children make good progress. They develop a wide range of skills for their future learning and their move on to school.
- Staff prioritise children's good health and support this successfully. For example, leaders organise parent workshops to provide useful information about children's health, such as weaning and exercise. Children learn the importance of personal hygiene and understand why they should wash their hands and clean their teeth.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Not all staff use the assessment systems consistently to identify more effectively children's next steps in learning and inform planning.
- At times, staff working with older children do not help to extend children's use of vocabulary fully, to provide an even greater level of challenge.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the assessment systems further to consistently inform planning and to help improve the quality of teaching and children's achievements to the highest level
- make the most of all staff interactions with children to consistently challenge and extend their use of language to achieve an even greater level of progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practices and the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff, children and parents.
- The inspector read some of the setting's documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector sampled children's development information and records.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the manager.

Inspector

Anne Clift

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff know current guidelines well and their responsibility to protect children. They understand how to act on any concerns about a child's welfare. Staff are vigilant about children's safety. They carry out regular risk assessments to identify and reduce potential hazards. Children are always fully supervised by well-qualified staff. Leaders and staff reflect on the quality of teaching and learning and identify how this can be improved further. Staff refresh their skills regularly and attend training. This has a positive impact on outcomes for children. For example, recent training helped staff review and further improve their approach to managing children's behaviour effectively. Staff develop good partnerships with parents and other professionals. They keep parents well informed about their child's care and development and help to support learning at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a wide range of activities to help children practise their physical skills. Children use their small-muscle movements and concentrate as they remove elastic bands fixed around containers and use pipettes to add colour to their designs. Staff support children's mathematical thinking during activities skilfully. Pre-school children order bottles according to the amount of water or rice they contain. Younger children learn about shapes as they build houses with squares and triangles. Staff encourage children to use their imaginations and make links from their own experiences.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide a welcoming learning environment which reflects the diverse range of children's backgrounds. They help children gain an awareness of communities in the wider world. Babies develop their self-awareness well, for instance, as they explore their reflections in mirrors. Children show consideration for their friends and behave well. They learn about 'kind hands' and tell their friends 'to share is to care.' Staff provide many opportunities for children to develop their independence. Children access water to drink throughout the day and serve their own healthy meals and snacks.

Outcomes for children are good

Children demonstrate good levels of involvement in their learning during their chosen play. They progress well with their literacy skills. Older children are keen to practise their writing skills, talk about familiar letters and write their names. Babies learn to turn the pages of books and use sounds to tell their own stories, communicating clearly and confidently. Children show high levels of curiosity. Babies and young children thoroughly enjoy the sensory feel of water. They splash creating bubbles and investigate objects with different textures, scents, changing lights and sound.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY280115
Local authority	Birmingham
Inspection number	1101956
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	58
Number of children on roll	57
Name of registered person	Building Blocks Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901340
Date of previous inspection	16 April 2014
Telephone number	0121 523 0999

Building Blocks Nursery registered in 2004. It operates within the building of Cherry Orchard Primary School, in Handsworth Wood, Birmingham. It opens Monday to Friday, from 7.30am until 6pm, all year except for bank holidays and a week at Christmas. The nursery employs 23 staff. Of these, four are qualified to level 6, three at level 5 and 10 at level 3. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years.

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