

Willows Day Nursery

Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Mandeville Road, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP21 8AL



Inspection date	18 January 2018
Previous inspection date	9 May 2013

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 management and staff team accurately identify priorities for improvements. They plan targets to help outcomes for all children. For example, they have successfully used their evaluation to offer opportunities for outside learning.
- Children demonstrate positive behaviour. They have secure relationships with staff, helping their emotional well-being. They enthusiastically join in with activities, showing their motivation.
- Children enjoy their learning and make good progress. Staff make observations and know the children well. They share information about children's development with parents and other settings children attend, helping continuity of care and learning.
- Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of the signs and symptoms that may indicate a concern about a child's welfare. Staff know how to recognise children who may be at risk, such as from extreme behaviours and views.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some staff do not use information gathered by parents of younger children as effectively as possible when planning next steps in learning from when they first start.
- At times, some staff miss opportunities to further support children's developing language skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use information gathered by parents of the youngest children when they start, to effectively help plan for their learning from the outset
- support staff to recognise how to make the most of opportunities that arise to help further develop children's speaking skills more fully.

Inspection activities

- The inspectors spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspectors observed children's activities and staff's interactions with children, inside and outside
- The inspectors carried out a joint observation with the manager, and held discussions about this with the manager.
- The inspectors looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working within the nursery.
- The inspectors took account of parents' views, obtained in person.

Inspector

Claire Boparai

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management team uses efficient systems for the recruitment, induction and ongoing support for staff, to help ensure children are cared for by suitable adults. The management and staff team work well together and make good use of their qualifications and experiences, helping continuity of care and learning for children. They attend a wide range of training as part of their continuous development. For example, recent training has helped staff's understanding of their responsibilities, in particular to maintain confidentiality. Managers are swift to action any concerns raised in a timely manner. For example, they have improved documentation relating to safeguarding and put clear plans in place to help ensure health and safety for all children. The manager monitors the quality of staff's practice. For example, she provides them with ongoing one-to-one support to help them develop their practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The management supports staff well to help them monitor and assess the development of individual children. This helps to identify and close any gaps in learning. Staff skilfully help older children develop their curiosity, for example, as they create potions and measure what they need. Younger children become engrossed in activities, supporting their concentration. For example, they enjoy listening to stories with the caring staff. The management team analyses and reflects on the progress of individual and specific groups of children. This helps to make sure that children who need support to catch up with their friends are quickly identified and planned for.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's care needs are met well and, overall, staff work with parents well. For example, they gather important information from parents about children's ongoing individual needs. Effective procedures are in place to help ensure children's good hygiene is maintained, including nappy changing arrangements. Parents are informed of, and have opportunities to be involved in, changes the nursery makes, such as the recent change to menus. Children make choices about where they play. The garden enables children space to be able to explore and exercise throughout the day, helping their coordination skills, for example, as they practise balancing. Staff encourage children to be independent. For instance, children help themselves to fruit and choose from exciting activities.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points and are developing key skills which prepare them well for their future learning. They take turns and play cooperatively. Older children recognise letters and confidently count. Younger children develop good concentration and use their imaginations as they explore, for example, pasta and play dough.

Setting details

Unique reference number	140897
Local authority	Buckinghamshire
Inspection number	1121667
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 - 4
Total number of places	101
Number of children on roll	181
Name of registered person	Childbase Partnership Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900830
Date of previous inspection	9 May 2013
Telephone number	01296 432004

Willows Day Nursery registered in 1994 and is located in the grounds of Stoke Mandeville Hospital in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6.30pm, throughout the year. The nursery is in receipt of funding for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 51 staff. The manager and 30 staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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