

Free Rangers Forest School Nursery

Welton Manor Farm House, Millards Hill, Midsomer Norton, RADSTOCK
BA3 2BW



Inspection date	24 January 2019
Previous inspection date	24 January 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of 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 leader and managers work well as a team to accurately evaluate the service they provide. Parents are well involved in the running of the nursery. They share their views and take part in social events.
- Children gain a good understanding of how to keep themselves safe. They listen well and learn how to manage risks and stay safe as they use tools independently.
- Partnerships with parents are well established. Parents are well informed about their children's progress. They say that they are happy with the care that their children receive.
- Children are keen and motivated to learn. The well-organised environment is interesting and inspiring for children. Children are confident at making their own choices about what they would like to play with.
- Staff support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities well, and they target teaching appropriately to ensure positive outcomes. Staff work closely with children's parents to get to know children's individual care and learning needs, which enables them to provide a consistent approach to learning.
- The organisation of daily routines is not consistently well planned, and children miss out on opportunities to play and learn as they spend time waiting.
- Staff working with the youngest children do not use the assessment systems as well as possible to ensure that they have an accurate understanding of what children need to learn next and to help monitor progress consistently.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of daily routines so that children do not wait or sit for long periods and enjoy more time engaged in play opportunities
- support staff working with the youngest children to help them plan more precisely for children's next steps in learning and monitor progress more consistently.

Inspection activities

- The inspector took into account the views of the parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the interactions between the staff and children.
- The inspector looked at written documents, including staff files, policies, procedures and risk assessments.
- The inspector held a leadership and management meeting with the manager and spoke to the staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Victoria Nicolson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The leader and managers follow robust procedures to recruit and monitor staff's suitability. Staff have a good understanding of the procedures that they should follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. Staff have detailed inductions and attend regular meetings and supervisions. Overall, staff are keen to develop their skills and knowledge further. For instance, they attend training and carry out research. Staff reflect positively on research around developing the learning environment. The leader and managers recognise the importance of working in partnership with other professionals. They have developed effective partnerships with professionals to support children and their families. The leader and managers give children's safety a high priority. They have developed good procedures to ensure that children's health, care and dietary needs are carefully considered.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children well. They develop secure relationships with the children and their families. Staff use children's interests effectively to create activities that are exciting and interesting to take part in. For instance, the younger children enjoy exploring the marks that they can make, as they use tools with large chunks of clay. The older children learn how to use large tools to cut and prepare materials to develop the tree house in the garden. The leader and managers have developed good methods to support children's language and communication skills. For example, children take part in small-group activities to support their development further.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children and motivate them to learn. They help to raise children's confidence and self-esteem. For instance, they enthusiastically praise children and encourage them to be independent in their learning. All children behave well. They listen intently as staff explain the rules and boundaries. Children gain a good understanding of what it is to be healthy. For instance, they learn about healthy food and have many opportunities for fresh air and exercise. Staff help children to gain a good understanding of the lives and beliefs of people from backgrounds different to their own. For instance, children enjoyed taking part in and learning about the tradition of wassailing. They excitedly used instruments as they danced to bless the trees on the nursery grounds.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. They gain the skills that support them with the next stage of their learning and the eventual move on to school. For example, older children develop good language and listening skills. They can identify and explain the rules of being in forest school. Younger children develop an interest in numbers and counting. For instance, they take part in number rhymes and count down using toys to support their understanding. All children develop good physical abilities. They develop their muscles as they balance and climb in the garden.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY441642
Local authority	Bath and North East Somerset Council
Inspection number	10092657
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	104
Number of children on roll	150
Name of registered person	Free Rangers Forest Schools Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP904135
Date of previous inspection	24 January 2013
Telephone number	01761411328

Free Rangers Forest School Nursery registered in 2011. It operates in Radstock, Bath and North East Somerset. The nursery is open from Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm. There is a holiday club for children aged five to 10 years. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. There are 32 staff employed to work with the children. Of these, five are qualified teachers, four are qualified at level 6, and 14 have early years qualifications at level 3.

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