

Finkley Down Farm Nursery And Pre School

Coppin, Finkley Down, Andover SP11 6NF



Inspection date	14 May 2019
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Children are happy, settle well and make good progress in their learning and development. Children show that they are at ease within the nursery and explore the environment well, demonstrating that they feel safe.
- Staff support the children well and naturally encourage them to have their own ideas and make choices. For example, children choose where to play, inside or out, and what clothing they need to wear. This helps children to develop their own self-awareness for emotional development.
- Staff maintain the key-person approach well and they ensure that they are fully knowledgeable about each child's day. For example, staff are aware what the children have eaten and how they are progressing in their learning, which helps them to support outcomes for children.
- Staff support children's communication and language skills inclusively. For instance, they use sign language with the children to help them all communicate together.
- Staff plan and provide a wide range of activities. However, at times during planned adult-led group activities, staff do not encourage children to be fully involved.
- The management team supports staff well, offering a good range of professional development opportunities and regular supervisions. However, at times the monitoring of staff practice is not sharply focused on further developing staff's teaching skills, to help raise children's attainments to the highest possible level.
- The management team and staff have strong partnerships with parents and other professionals. This promotes continuity in care in supporting children's individual and learning needs.
- Recruitment processes are effective in ensuring staff working with the children are safe and suitable to do so.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make more effective use of reflective practice opportunities to help staff develop a more expert knowledge of teaching and learning to raise the practice to a higher level
- make better use of adult-led group activities so that all children have more opportunities to participate and be involved.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities available to children inside and outdoors, and accompanied the children to the farm.
- The inspector observed relationships and interactions between children and staff.
- The inspector asked staff questions about their work and discussed individual children with key persons. The inspector observed practice with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to available parents about their views and opinions of the provision, and considered these along with the emails of support sent in for the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation.

Inspector

Tracy Bartholomew

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand the signs of children at risk and know what to do if they are worried about a child's welfare, including who to report concerns to. They are well deployed to meet the needs of the children and they work well together to create a friendly nursery atmosphere. Staff have opportunities to advance and develop their skills through training. For instance, some have attended training on understanding children with additional needs. This has helped staff to understand how all children develop differently. Parents comment highly on the staff and their children's experiences at the nursery. Such as, 'the staff are amazing' and offer a 'safety net', they are 'kind, supportive and bring a sense of a family feel to the nursery, which breeds a happy environment'.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff regularly complete observations and assessments of children's learning and share these effectively with parents. All parents are encouraged to contribute information about their child's home learning, through an online system. This promotes an effective joint approach to children's development. The management team tracks all children's progress and monitors development successfully, including for those children with English as an additional language. This helps the team to implement further support as needed. Staff skilfully help children to be independent to help prepare them for their eventual move on to school. For instance, children self-serve their drinks and breakfast from the mini-kitchen area and they confidently choose their own play with ease. Staff build on children's ideas well and support children's imagination purposefully. For example, children who enjoy using media and materials to create pictures of fish and sharks have fun opportunities to make fishing lines to use in their imaginary play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well and follow the rules and boundaries of the nursery. They develop good social skills and are building meaningful friendships. For example, they play happily together and share resources effectively. Children's personal hygiene and toileting needs are well managed by staff. Staff provide children with freshly prepared and well-balanced meals and snacks, which meet their individual dietary needs. Children have good opportunities to develop a strong understanding about the natural world around them. For instance, they visit the local farm daily to see the different types of animals. Staff provide children with a variety of opportunities to be physically active. For example, children have fun managing risks as they negotiate wheeled toys down and around the hill.

Outcomes for children are good

Children show enthusiasm and interest for learning. For instance, all children enjoy exploring with different sensory materials, such as soil, and enthusiastically hunt for worms to go into their wormery. Older children gain valuable skills ready for school, including a knowledge of numbers and letters.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY547581
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10103573
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	92
Name of registered person	Dennis, Alison Claire
Registered person unique reference number	RP547580
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01264 360505

Finkley Down Farm Nursery And Pre School registered in 2017. It is located in the grounds of Finkley Down Farm in Andover, Hampshire. The nursery opens from 7.30am to 6pm all year round. There are 19 staff employed at the setting. Of these 14 staff have relevant early years qualifications at level 2 or above.

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