

Mulberry Bush Nursery

Ditherington Road, SHREWSBURY, SY1 4DQ



Inspection date	25 July 2017
Previous inspection date	26 March 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

- Children show sustained levels of interest in activities, in relation to their age. They listen well at small group times and communicate their needs and feelings successfully to others.
- Assessment of children's learning and development is accurate and staff have a secure understanding of how children learn. They consistently review and evaluate children's progress while making adaptations if necessary.
- Staff complete regular comprehensive risk assessments to identify and minimise risks to children. Children learn appropriate ways to stay safe, particularly when on outings in the local community.
- Staff have a calm and consistent approach to managing children's behaviour. Staff use positive methods to support children to find appropriate solutions when minor disagreements occur.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Parents are actively involved in their own child's development and contribute to their assessments. Parents feel very welcome and comfortable at the nursery and are complimentary about the friendly staff.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although systems to monitor staff's practice are in place, these are not rigorous enough to provide a sharp focus on enhancing teaching practice to the highest levels.
- Staff do not make the best use of the outdoor environment to inspire and support the learning and development of those children who prefer to learn outdoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the outdoor learning environment further to provide children who prefer to learn outdoors with inspiring opportunities for learning and play
- strengthen performance management systems to provide a sharper focus on teaching that is of the highest quality.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the nursery manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times. She looked at relevant documentation and checked the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Lesley Bott

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have an in-depth understanding of child protection issues. They are confident in their knowledge of where to report any concerns they may have about children in their care. The manager ensures robust recruitment and a good induction process to support staff in understanding their roles and responsibilities. Regular monitoring from the manager helps ensure staff remain suitable to continue working with children. The manager evaluates all children's progress well. She obtains information from the tracking of different groups of children to help identify any differences in learning and addresses these swiftly. Staff develop effective partnerships with external professionals and other services. Together, they achieve the best possible outcomes for all children, particularly those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan a range of interesting experiences that stimulates and motivates children's learning and development. Children have a good attitude to learning. Staff model key words and use effective strategies. For example, they get down to children's eye level when talking to them to promote their communication and language skills. Staff welcome children who speak English as an additional language to share cultural traditions. This helps to enhance children's awareness of people and communities beyond their own. Staff develop children's exploration and imaginative skills well. Children enjoy water play and different textures of sand, spaghetti and foam as they increase their investigative skills. Children show an interest in books. They excitedly join in with familiar stories with staff as they repeat the story.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have strong bonds with their key person and staff within their room. They are happy and confident. The baby room is calm and welcoming. Staff are attentive and offer good support for babies play and exploration. Staff are good role models to the children. They support their social and emotional skills well while taking children's individual needs into account, such as during room changes. This helps children to develop a good sense of belonging and self-worth within the nursery. Children benefit from healthy lifestyles. They understand that fruits, milk and water are good for them. Children enjoy opportunities for fresh air and exercise outdoors.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are making good progress in relation to their starting points. Older children are developing skills in readiness for school. They enjoy counting and challenging their mathematical thinking as they learn to recognise numerals. Pre-school children practise their early writing skills as they write for different purposes. Children make independent play choices as they help themselves to resources, pour their own drinks and serve their food at mealtimes. Babies have opportunities to explore their environment as they develop their physical skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY458254
Local authority	Shropshire
Inspection number	1088143
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 - 5
Total number of places	72
Number of children on roll	87
Name of registered person	Hazles Farm Child Care Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP911217
Date of previous inspection	26 March 2014
Telephone number	07538972730

The Mulberry Bush Day Nursery registered in 2012 and is located in Shrewsbury. The nursery employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, 14 hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2, level 3 and above. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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