

Ann's Wombles Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

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Inspector	Lynn Reeves
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Type of setting	Childcare on non-domestic premises

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Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

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Description of the setting

Ann's Wombles Nursery opened in 1977 and operates from rooms on the ground floor within the providers own home in the village of Cowplain in Hampshire. The nursery is privately owned and has easy access to the building with ramps. It is registered on the Early Years Register and on both the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. A maximum of 26 children may attend the nursery at any one time aged two to under eight years. The nursery opens each weekday from 7:00am to 6.00pm except for bank holidays. All children share access to the enclosed outdoor play areas. The group also offers a facility for caring for school aged children before and after school.

Currently there are 27 children on roll, of which 21 are in the early years age range. The owner and four members of staff work directly with the children, of whom three hold relevant child care qualifications and one who is awaiting training. The nursery supports children who speak English as an additional language.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

All children are happy and settled during their time at the nursery because staff take the time to get to know the children well. Clear policies and most of the procedures are implemented consistently to ensure all children are supported and continue to make good progress towards the early learning goals. Staff attend training to ensure they continue to update their knowledge and skills, driving development and improvement in the setting for the benefit of the children who attend. Strong partnerships with parents of children who attend are developing well, ensuring each child's individual needs are being met.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- continue developing the assessments and planning to clearly show identified next steps for children's progress which can then be measured against their individual achievements
- maintain the relevant documentation with the required parental signatures

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are being safeguarded because good recruitment and vetting procedures are in place. Staff have a secure knowledge of the child protection procedures and know how to implement them to safeguard the children. All visitors to the setting are required to sign in and out of the visitor's book, maintaining an accurate record of everyone who comes into contact with the children. Daily registers are taken of the children and staff in attendance. Risk assessments are carried out to ensure the premises are safe and secure for the children and undertaken daily to ensure children are kept safe.

The owner and staff have a clear vision for the nursery and are continually developing systems and procedures to monitor the effectiveness of the setting and the outcomes for children. For example, since the last inspection the owner has decorated and re-organised the children's base rooms, and added more storage areas with clear labelling. This helps to develop children's independence for selfselecting resources and creates a clean and bright learning environment. The owner has also installed a disability ramp to the rear of the building and has two additional portable ramps that could be used at the front of the building to ensure easy access for everyone. A bio-metric finger print system has also been installed, which allows only parents who are registered on the system to gain entry. Daily routines, staff performance and individual activities are consistently monitored and evaluated to ensure they reflect the care needs of the children. Staff deployment is good, ensuring all children are fully supervised and receive support and encouragement throughout the day. The setting has made good progress since the last inspection and has addressed all of the previous recommendations raised. For example, staff have attended Early Years Foundation Stage training and are working well to ensure all six areas of the curriculum are covered. However, the observations and assessment systems still need areas developing. Clearer information is displayed and shared with parents to ensure they are fully involved with their child's learning and the risk assessments and the complaints procedures are now well maintained.

Procedures are in placed to record accidents, incidents and medication; however, some have the required parental signatures missing. Staff attend team meetings to share expertise and are encouraged to attend regular training. Staff are well deployed to maintain good ratios and support the children in their learning and play. The learning environment is bright and colourful with children's own creations and photographs displayed promoting their sense of belonging. The sessions run smoothly and the wide range of resources help children to be actively involved.

Equality is promoted well within the setting and all children's individual needs are being met. They use a range of multicultural resources to learn about other cultures and beliefs and take part in planned topics and themes celebrating festivals. Positive images of ethnicity, gender and disability are displayed around the nursery. Procedures are in place to support children with individual needs and staff are skilled at differentiating the activities to ensure all children are involved and gain the most of what is on offer.

Children's welfare needs are being met throughout the nursery because staff spend time with the parents and record detailed information about their children's daily routines and individual care needs. Strong relationships are being built with the parents and they are able to talk to the staff at any time. Verbal information about what the children achieve is shared openly and parents receive information about their children's next learning steps to involve them in their child's learning both at the nursery and at home. Parents have access to their child's records at any time and are able to make written contributions about their child's learning. Newsletters and notice boards are used to keep the parents fully informed about developments and activities within the nursery. Some parents have verbally given positive comments about the nursery, stating that the staff are very friendly and approachable and that their children's needs are being met well including their care, welfare and educational needs. Systems are in place to share information with other providers of the Early Years Foundation Stage when children begin to attend other settings which ensures the children's care, play and learning in one setting complements another. The children are given opportunities to visit the local infant schools and the teachers are invited into the nursery to meet the children to ensure the transition into school runs smoothly.

The quality and standards of the early years provision and outcomes for children

All children in the nursery have fun and enjoy a wide variety of activities and experiences to promote their learning and development is all six areas. The staff team have secure knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and spend time gathering information about what the children can do through observations. They keep samples of the children's work and achievements in their individual learning journals, which are shared with parents. Although, the systems in place need further developing to ensure the planning clearly show identified next steps for children's progress which can then be measured against their individual achievements. Staff ask open-ended questions to extend the children's learning and encourage the children to think about what they are trying to achieve. For example, children making elephant masks are encouraged to look at the pictures in the book to see if they can create and decorate the same images. Children enjoy colouring and show off their creations with pride to the adults, talking about what they have drawn and coloured in. They use their imagination well using a variety of media such as sand, foam shapes and dried pasta.

Children are able to play alone if they wish to, or sit and read books independently. They have opportunities to choose books from the mobile library and enjoy listening to stories from the visiting local story teller who uses a range of props when reading to the children to make books interesting. Staff sit down on the floor with the children, becoming involved in their play when asked, or stand back to let play develop. For example, as several children build a tower with the Lego bricks, they ask adults to help them build it high. Children's mathematical concept is developing as they laugh and giggle saying the tower is bigger than them. They thoroughly enjoy themselves knocking the towers over and starting again. They consolidate their learning with playing match and sort and comparison games. Other children enjoy using the Magna Doodle boards, counting and naming the colours and shapes as they create patterns. Children are developing their recognition of letters and words as they self-register and see labelled resources around the setting. Staff introduce new vocabulary and allow the children time to repeat the words as they consolidate their learning. Children use everyday technology, such as computers and programmable toys. All staff are enthusiastic and support the children well during activities and continuous play.

All children have access to outdoor play areas and have opportunities to reap the benefits of the fresh air every day and enjoy outings to local amenities and parks. Children have opportunities to run, jump and climb and laugh and giggle as they feel the sand in their toes playing in the large sand pit in the garden. They organise themselves well, taking off their own socks and shoes and pretend to hunt for buried treasure in the wet sand. They demonstrate good spatial awareness as they ride the wheeled toys on the hard standing and begin to understand the concept of playing quietly and loudly as they play a range of musical instruments.

The children are developing good self-care skills as they attempt to put on their own coats and shoes for outdoor play and visit the toilets independently. Good hygiene procedures are implemented to help prevent the possible spread of infection. They help themselves to tissues and wet wipes and pour their drinks from the water dispenser. Children are beginning to learn about the importance of eating food that is good for them and the importance of a healthy lifestyle. They have access to the secure garden throughout the day to ensure they reap the benefits of the fresh air and talk about how exercise is good for their bodies. Children take part in activities to further develop their understanding of a nutritious diet. For example, they take part in food tasting activities and are provided with a good selection of healthy options for snacks and meals. Meals times are sociable as all the children sit together and they talk about the germs they have just washed off their hands.

Children learn how to keep themselves safe through discussion and the consistent rules and boundaries implemented by staff. For example, children know they must not run in the nursery or stand on the chairs in case they fall and hurt themselves. Children and staff practise regular fire drills to ensure everyone knows what to do if they have to evacuate the building in the event of an emergency. Children talk about how important it is for the staff to check if the gates are locked before they go outside to play. Staff implement clear rules and boundaries consistently, so the children know exactly what is expected of them. Children are well behaved because they are busy and occupied in activities throughout the day that reflect their own interests. They are beginning to show consideration for others as they share and take turns and are encouraged to say sorry and think about the feelings of others if they upset anyone. The staff effectively involve and include children in activities, encouraging them to work together in a cooperative way, for example, working out how long they should stay in the sand pit before letting others use it or how long they should use the computer for. Staff are positive role models and actively encourage the use of good manners and politeness from an early age. Children are interested in the activities and are fully occupied throughout the day, which has a very positive effect on their behaviour.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous	2
improvement	

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	2
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	2
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	2
The effectiveness of partnerships	2
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	2

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage 2

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	2
The extent to which children feel safe	2
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	2
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	2

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Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:	Met