

Bow Brick Hill "Little Stars Nursery" Afterschool and Holiday Club

The Pavillion, Rushmere Close, Bow Brickhill, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK17 9JB

Inspection date	08/08/2013
Previous inspection date	21/01/2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	
	Previous inspection:	
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		2

The quality and standards of the early years provision

This provision is good

- All children enjoy their time at the play scheme. They form good relationships with staff and each other and play well together.
- Children find the range of resources stimulating and interesting. They persevere with self-chosen tasks and play themes, and collaborate successfully to maintain imaginative play.
- Supervision of the children is good. Staff are deployed effectively at all times and they continually monitor the quality of play, making skilful adjustments to resources to maintain children's good involvement levels.
- An effective staff development programme is in place to develop staff's skills, which benefits children.

It is not yet outstanding because

- The playscheme organisation does not always promote children's independence, or enable children to challenge themselves and learn to assess risk,
- Although there are good partnerships with parents, not all are well-informed about day-

to-day activities or share information about their child's learning at home.

Information about this inspection

Inspections of registered early years provision are:

- scheduled at least once in every inspection cycle – the current cycle ends on 31 July 2016
- scheduled more frequently where Ofsted identifies a need to do so, for example where provision was previously judged inadequate
- brought forward in the inspection cycle where Ofsted has received information that suggests the provision may not be meeting the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage or where assessment of the provision identifies a need for early inspection
- prioritised where we have received information that the provision is not meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and which suggests children may not be safe
- scheduled at the completion of an investigation into failure to comply with the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

The provision is also registered on the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. This report includes a judgment about compliance with the requirements of that register.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the main play room and the outside learning environment.
- The inspector held meetings with the managers of the provision.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation.
The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of practitioners
- working with children, the provider's self-evaluation form and a selection of policy documents.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Christina Downey

Full Report

Information about the setting

The Bow Brickhill 'Little Stars Nursery' After School and Holiday Club registered in 2004. It is a privately owned provision and operates from the sports pavilion in Bow Brickhill, a village close to Milton Keynes in Buckinghamshire. The premises comprise a large main hall, a kitchen and washing and toilet facilities. The nursery serves the local and wider community. Children have easy access to extensive outdoor play space.

The nursery is registered on the Early Years Register, and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. Currently, there are 51 children between the ages of three and 11 on roll; of these 18 are in the early years age group. Children attend nursery on a full and part-time basis, before and after school and during the holidays. The nursery opens from 8am until 6pm each day during term time and from 8.30am until 6.30pm during school holidays. The nursery takes and collects children from several schools in the local area each day.

The nursery employs eight members of staff who work directly with the children, six of whom hold appropriate childcare qualifications. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of education for three and four year olds. It is open all year and the premises are fully accessible.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review aspects of play scheme organisation, such as breakfast time and outdoor play on the large fixed climbing equipment, so that children can be more independent, challenge themselves and learn to assess risk

- strengthen partnerships with all parents to better share information about learning and how daily activities support children's development.

Inspection judgements

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend

The stimulating programme of play activities throughout the summer playscheme effectively supports children's learning in all areas. All children are actively involved in self chosen play opportunities throughout most of the day. Staff provide a good balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities. They know all the children very well and support their learning and perseverance successfully through timely interventions and the offer of

resources specifically acquired to appeal to individual interests.

During the lengthy, well resourced free-play sessions children of all ages are highly motivated to take part in the stimulating play opportunities and staff skilfully support this participation. For example, they provide lengths of fabric which older children enthusiastically attach to the climbing wall and scramble net to make a den. However at times, they are hindered from challenging themselves or learning to assess the risks involved in climbing up to make the roof by staff who do it for them. Younger children really enjoy digging and making mud potions. They explore the changes as they add more water, or make marks with water on the outside walls. They are confident and have a positive disposition towards learning.

Staff are very responsive to children's needs and relationships are strong. Younger children confidently approach staff to talk about their news, and their speaking and listening skills are good. During circle time all children listen attentively and respond to ideas expressed by others as they offer suggestions for play equipment they would like out today and discuss possible holiday destinations.

Children in the early years age range play confidently alongside older children and feel safe and secure in the setting. Nursery children make good progress in their learning and development. The effective key person system ensures systematic observations are used to monitor children's progress in all areas and identify useful next steps in their learning. Termly summaries provide parents with good quality, formal progress reports, but more informal information sharing systems are not yet so effective in supporting learning. Relationships with parents are warm and friendly, and they appreciate the family atmosphere of the setting.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children

Children feel very secure in the setting because staff are kind and caring role models, and focus on getting to know each child as an individual. When children are new to the setting, staff take care to ensure they obtain information about their likes and dislikes. The key person system successfully supports children make secure attachments and helps develop positive relationships with nursery parents in particular. However, the system for keeping parents informed during the play scheme is not yet so well developed.

The play scheme provides a very welcoming environment. The good quality and attractive resources are appealing to children of all ages and older children in particular are supported well to make their own choices. For example, they run inside to fetch furniture and other items for their den and are excited to find camouflage nets. This results in good levels of involvement and cooperative play.

Children are encouraged to develop healthy eating choices through nutritious meals and snacks, which include a good amount of fresh fruit. Drinking water is freely available and children access it regularly. Topics such as health and exercise successfully promote children's awareness of healthy lifestyles and there is a good focus on outdoor play and physical activities. Children explore their environment and take part in nature walks

through the wooded area with interest but restrictions on the use of large climbing equipment limits their ability to assess risk. Consistent hygiene routines give clear messages to children about the importance of hand washing for example, but do not always provide sufficient opportunity for older children to make independent decisions. Staff take children on regular trips and outings, especially during the school holidays. Effective links have been made with local schools, which support children's progress and transitions.

Behaviour is good, and shows children feel safe and secure. Effective staff deployment ensures children are carefully supervised and well-supported in their play choices throughout the day.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision

The management team maintains a good overview of the curriculum and the planned play provision. Both the play scheme and nursery manager work directly with the children and skilfully monitor the quality of children's experience throughout the day. They lead other staff in timely interventions, carefully assessing when it is appropriate to step in and offer suggestions and when to allow children to play uninterrupted. This contributes strongly to the good levels of interest and engagement the children display. In the nursery, this informal process is complimented by more formal monitoring systems such as tracking children's progress. The recently implemented and consistent observation, assessment and planning system is proving effective in helping all children to make good progress. The nursery manager has accessed recent training on evaluating and monitoring overall quality to improve the nursery's self evaluation process. Parent questionnaires provide useful feedback to inform and create clear improvement plans. Good partnership working with external agencies is successful in ensuring children's progress and maintaining high standards.

Staff benefit from the appraisal system and comprehensive training plans contribute well to the continual development of their professional skills. Managers maintain all required records accurately and conscientiously. They implement policies consistently well which helps ensure the environment is safe, welcoming and stimulating. The staff have a good awareness of their responsibilities to safeguard children in their care and have all attended suitable training. Daily checks of the premises and equipment help promote overall safety. Parents are pleased with the quality of the service offered. They feel that their children have settled well and enjoy attending the setting.

The Childcare Register

The requirements for the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are **Met**

The requirements for the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are **Met**

What inspection judgements mean

Registered early years provision

Grade	Judgement	Description
Grade 1	Outstanding	Outstanding provision is highly effective in meeting the needs of all children exceptionally well. This ensures that children are very well prepared for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 2	Good	Good provision is effective in delivering provision that meets the needs of all children well. This ensures children are ready for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 3	Satisfactory	Satisfactory provision is performing less well than expectations in one or more of the key areas. It requires improvement in order to be good.
Grade 4	Inadequate	Provision that is inadequate requires significant improvement and/or enforcement action. The provision is failing to give children an acceptable standard of early years education and/or is not meeting the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. It will be inspected again within 12 months of the date of this inspection.
Met		The provision has no children on roll. The inspection judgement is that the provider continues to meet the requirements for registration.
Not met		The provision has no children on roll. The inspection judgement is that the provider does not meet the requirements for registration.

Inspection

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children’s learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY296586
Local authority	Milton Keynes
Inspection number	837637
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	51
Name of provider	Joanne Bernadette Tierney
Date of previous inspection	21/01/2009
Telephone number	01908 673012

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance '*Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted*', which is available from Ofsted’s website: www.ofsted.gov.uk. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

Type of provision

For the purposes of this inspection the following definitions apply:

Full-time provision is that which operates for more than three hours. These are usually known as nurseries, nursery schools and pre-schools and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the higher fee for registration.

Sessional provision operates for more than two hours but does not exceed three hours in any one day. These are usually known as pre-schools, kindergartens or nursery schools

and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the lower fee for registration.

Childminders care for one or more children where individual children attend for a period of more than two hours in any one day. They operate from domestic premises, which are usually the childminder's own home. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Out of school provision may be sessional or full-time provision and is delivered before or after school and/or in the summer holidays. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. Where children receive their Early Years Foundation Stage in school these providers do not have to deliver the learning and development requirements in full but should complement the experiences children receive in school.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

© Crown copyright 2012

