

Blackdown Children's Day Nursery

The Bungalow, Chelston, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 9PH



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

20 January 2015

30 November 2009

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff observe, plan and assess children's progress effectively. Children are fully involved in their learning, making decisions about the exciting range of experiences on offer. This, alongside good quality teaching and positive interactions from staff, enables children to make good progress in their learning, especially in their communication and language.
- Staff provide an emotionally secure environment for young babies to actively explore. All children benefit greatly from the strong attachments with their key person and develop a strong sense of identity.
- The nursery's leadership and management team demonstrates a strong commitment to promoting high quality provision. They have developed an accurate action plan to drive improvement and identify staff training needs through regular supervision meetings to improve outcomes for children.
- Staff give good priority to help children learn safe and hygienic practices. They have a good understanding of their responsibilities to safeguard children at all times.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There is little labelling on displays and in the environment for children to observe meaningful print as they develop early writing and reading skills.
- On occasion, staff are too quick to provide answers and do not give older children time to test ideas and solve problems independently in their role play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve labelling and displays in the environment to support children's early reading skills and for them to see writing for a purpose
- provide children with more time to explore ideas and solve problems independently.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed all age groups playing inside and outdoors.
- The inspector observed staff and talked with them about children's care, learning and development.
- The inspector and manager carried out two joint observations; one in each age group.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including written views of parents, assessment records, self-evaluation, and policies and procedures.

Inspector

Rachael Williams

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Staff use their good knowledge of children to plan an exciting range of experiences that build on what children know. They use effective assessment arrangements to identify learning priorities. Parents are fully involved, providing key information when children first start and frequently sharing their children's achievements from home. Children are actively involved in their learning. Older children choose what resources they would like out in each room. Staff develop children's interests well, providing good opportunities for older children to create books and younger ones to explore early writing. On occasion, staff are too quick to provide a solution, such as how to progress a toy car's journey through the rice. Therefore, children do not learn problem-solving skills consistently. Positive interactions from staff increase children's communication and language skills effectively. Staff use effective teaching methods. They provide consistent narratives to children's actions, demonstrating how to use equipment and questioning children to increase their understanding. This ensures that children remain engaged and focused in their activities, which helps them develop skills for their future learning.

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

Staff support children's emotional well-being well. Children form close bonds with their key person and learn familiar routines. Babies seek familiar adults for hugs and engage in games, such as peek-a-boo to develop relationships further. Children benefit greatly from the individual care they receive to promote their health care needs. Children learn hygienic and safe practices because staff are good role models. For example, staff provided clear explanations to children when they spilt drinks and children keenly helped to clear them up. Staff are respectful, asking children's permission to change nappies or wipe noses. The nursery is well organised. It provides a hygienic, safe and emotionally secure environment for children to explore freely and independently. Staff celebrate children's achievements displaying their creations prominently. However, there is little labelling to support children's early reading skills and for them to see writing being used purposefully.

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

Staff have a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They implement comprehensive policies and procedures to safeguard children. Good progress has been made since the last inspection. There is effective recruitment and induction of new staff and consistency in sharing information with other early years settings children attend. Management monitor staff's care practices and the delivery of the educational programme effectively through regular supervision and meetings. This helps to promote consistent practices. Accurate self-evaluation effectively identifies how the nursery can improve further, to benefit children and their families.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY389369
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	830198
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	44
Name of provider	Graham Neil Brister-Thorne
Date of previous inspection	30 November 2009
Telephone number	07594 217 995

Blackdown Children's Day Nursery registered in 2009 and is privately owned. It operates from a renovated bungalow in Chelston, near Wellington, Somerset. There are four separate playrooms, with a kitchen, office and toilet facilities. There is an enclosed outdoor play area consisting of hard standing and grassed areas. The nursery is registered on the Early Years Register and there are currently 44 children on roll. The nursery is open from 7:45am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, all year round, with the exception of Bank Holidays. The nursery supports children learning English as an additional language. It receives funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two-, three- and four- years of age. The owner employs a manager who holds a degree in early years. She is supported by nine staff; six of whom hold early years qualifications at level 3.

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