

Beacon Hill Day Nursery

29 Beacon Hill Road, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG24 2JH



Inspection date

16 January 2015

Previous inspection date

16 September 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

- Children enjoy visiting a wide variety of local attractions, which provide them with opportunities to develop their knowledge of their local environment. As a result, they make very good progress when learning about the world in which they live.
- Children are well prepared for school as there are good links with feeder schools and teachers come in to meet the children. Children also visit the local school, which helps them to cope with the move comfortably.
- Children are confident and independent learners who form strong bonds with staff and develop positive self-esteem.
- The manager monitors the educational programme and children's progress well, and ensures staff are supported in their professional development to improve outcomes for children.
- Children are effectively safeguarded because robust systems are in place to ensure all staff have a secure knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures, so they can act appropriately to safeguard children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff overlook opportunities to extend children's thinking skills and allow children to voice their own ideas, for example, through the use of a range of questions.
- The outdoor environment is not currently used effectively to fully promote children's literacy and mathematical skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's critical thinking skills, for example, by skilfully questioning children during activities
- enhance the planning of the outdoor environment, so it supports children who prefer to learn outdoors, for example, by incorporating more literacy and numeracy.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the nursery and held discussions with the owner, who is also the manager.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed adult-led and free-play activities taking place in the four playrooms and outside area.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working with children and the nursery's self-evaluation and improvement plan.

Inspector

Hayley Ruane

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching and learning is consistently good. As a result, all children are supported to make good progress. Staff work hard to support children, offering a range of opportunities to support their learning and help them to reach their full potential. For example, older children develop early writing skills, as they are provided with many opportunities to practise writing in their play, such as labelling their own work. As a result, children are beginning to spell out the letters in their name. Younger children who are not yet walking are supported to develop their physical skills as they access push-along toys. Children's communication and language development are supported effectively as staff model language and introduce new vocabulary during play. However, occasionally, there are missed opportunities for staff to skilfully question children during their play to further develop their critical thinking skills. Children have good access to the outdoors, as both the baby room and toddler rooms lead directly from these areas of the nursery. However, there is room to further enhance planning of the outdoor environment to promote literacy and mathematics, particularly for those children who prefer to be outdoors. Parents contribute to initial assessments of children's starting points on entry, and they are kept well informed about their progress through daily discussions with staff.

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

Children are happy and settled in the nursery and they interact with staff, who provide warm and affectionate care. They form secure attachments with staff who are positive and approachable at all times. Consequently, children develop a sense of belonging in this welcoming environment. Children are familiar with the routines of the day. For example, older children help to prepare tables for lunch and clean tables afterwards. Snack times are social occasions when children chat to their friends. Staff use this time to encourage good manners and talk about children's families and interests. Children develop their independence and confidence as they choose their activities from a selection of low-level, clear boxes. Children enjoy a range of physical activities outside and enjoy helping staff to sweep up the leaves. They can rest in quieter places after lunch or engage in group activities to support children's learning.

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

The management team understands their role and responsibilities to meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The manager carries out regular supervisions with staff, so they can evaluate their performance, target training and discuss children's progress. This ensures that children benefit from continually improved learning experiences. The manager and staff prioritise the safety of the environment each day, by completing thorough daily risk assessments in each room and making sure the equipment is set out safely. From the outset, positive relationships are developed with parents and carers as both children and their families are given a warm welcome. Systems for evaluating the nursery are good and incorporate the views of parents, children and staff.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY246110
Local authority	Nottinghamshire
Inspection number	860257
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	65
Number of children on roll	84
Name of provider	Balderton Village Day Nursery Partnership
Date of previous inspection	16 September 2009
Telephone number	01636 704823

Beacon Hill Day Nursery was registered in 2002. It is one of two nurseries privately owned and run in partnership with Balderton Village Day Nursery. The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff and a cook. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level three, one at level two, including one with Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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