Westhill Nursery

West Hill, Wincanton, Somerset, BA9 9BX



| Inspection date Previous inspection date | 29 Janua 8 Februa | , | | |
|--|----------------------|------|---|--|
| 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 provide a good range of quality learning experiences for children both inside and out. As a result, children are inquisitive and motivated to learn.
- There are strong partnerships with parents, which enables staff to meet children's care and learning needs effectively.
- Children benefit from very strong and positive relationships with adults and other children. This helps them to feel safe, confident and emotionally secure.
- Children make good progress relative to their starting points. This is because they benefit from consistently effective teaching.
- The staff team demonstrates a strong commitment to providing high-quality provision. Staff attend regular training courses and use the knowledge and ideas gained to enhance children's learning and development.
- Children are developing good communication and language skills. They are expressive and confident during their play and interactions with the staff and each other.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not organise group activity times to support children to concentrate and listen fully.
- Staff do not always encourage children fully to develop their understanding of possible risks to themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of some large group activities, to promote children's listening and concentration fully.
- maximise opportunities for children to develop their understanding of the importance of keeping themselves safe.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities, both inside and outside.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held a meeting with the manager of the provision.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including planning, children's records, evidence of suitability of staff, policies and procedures.

Inspector

Michelle Tuck

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 how children learn to provide a broad range of learning opportunities and experiences. Children's language and communication development is supported through the use of sign language. They have opportunities to count, ask questions and problem solve. This helps ensure they are well prepared for moving on to the next stage in their development and eventually to school. Staff teach children to count and use numbers in routines and activities. This develops children's understanding of mathematical terms. They share well, take turns and work well together to, for example, build a train track or engage in the role-play dolls' hospital. This supports their personal, social and emotional development. During the inspection, children played games in small groups, completed puzzles and made figures of themselves. However, on occasions when children are in a larger group, others distract them and staff do not engage them consistently in the activity.

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

Children play in a warm, safe and welcoming environment. Staff build warm and trusting relationships with the children, giving them lots of praise, which builds their self-esteem and supports their emotional development. Children have opportunities to be active and engage in activities that support their physical development. They share healthy snacks and enjoy nutritious meals from home. They know why this is important to their health. Staff teach the children how to leave the premises quickly and safely in an emergency through practising the fire drill regularly. However, staff have not considered involving children more in learning how to keep themselves safe, for instance, helping children to understand the importance of holding hands when they go on an outing.

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

Managers have a good understanding of their responsibilities and follow thorough procedures to support children's health, safety and well-being. Systems in place to check the quality of teaching, planning and assessment are thorough. Self-evaluation successfully identifies the pre-school's strengths and areas for development, and includes the views of parents and children. Staff have a good understanding of child protection issues and are clear on what to do if they have a concern. Staff have enhanced their teaching skills positively through various training opportunities. For example, using sign language with the children. Management monitors staff closely, providing support where necessary to develop practice further. Effective systems to check the quality of the provision ensure children are provided with rich learning experiences. Staff are proactive in making contact with other settings that children attend to share information about children's learning. This promotes consistency.

Setting details

| Unique reference number | 142879 |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Local authority | Somerset |
| Inspection number | 841556 |
| Type of provision | Full-time provision |
| Registration category | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Age range of children | 2 - 4 |
| Total number of places | 24 |
| Number of children on roll | 52 |
| Name of provider | Westhill Nursery Committee |
| Date of previous inspection | 8 February 2010 |
| Telephone number | 07849 639 826 |

Westhill Nursery operates from a converted classroom within the grounds of King Arthur's Community School on the outskirts of the town of Wincanton. It has a kitchen area within the room, and access to toilet facilities, and a fully enclosed outdoor play area. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 8.30am until 3pm during school term-times. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four. Six members of staff work with the children. The manager is qualified to level 6, and four members of staff are qualified to level 3. The setting maintains positive links with the local schools. The setting makes good use of the sports centre and other facilities on the community school site.

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