

Mill Meadows Nursery and After School Club

The Pavillion, Meadows Road, Henley-on-Thames, RG9 1BF



Inspection date

12 May 2015

Previous inspection date

1 May 2012

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

- This is a happy, well-organised nursery where children make good progress in all areas of learning. Careful planning ensures that children are well prepared for changes in their lives and the next steps in their education.
- Staff are enthusiastic and well organised making very good use of the resources available to them. Children's independence is encouraged effectively by creating an environment where children can access a variety of resources very easily.
- Staff know children's care routines and meet their individual needs well.
- All aspects of safeguarding are given high priority. Staff ensure the environment and resources are safe, and they know what action to take if they are concerned about a child.
- Positive relationships with parents and other professionals are well established. This helps to promote a coordinated, supportive approach to children's care and learning, enabling children to receive high-quality care at all times.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not have the opportunity to observe and evaluate each other's practice, to enable them to share their good teaching skills and identify areas for development to enhance practice further.
- Staff do not always sit and enjoy their meals with the children. This means that they miss good opportunities to develop children's social skills and talk to them about the food they are eating.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of routine activities, such as mealtimes, to enhance children's social skills and knowledge about their food
- enhance staff's professional development, for example, by providing opportunities for staff to observe each other's skills and reflect on their practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector toured the premises and viewed resources with the owner.
- The inspector observed the children and staff at play.
- The inspector examined records and documents provided by the owner, and observed an activity with the owner.
- The inspector spoke with parents about the setting.
- The inspector discussed self-evaluation with the owner and manager.

Inspector

Lynne Lewington

Inspection findings

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

Staff encourage children's development effectively through well-planned and purposeful activities relevant to the children's developmental needs. For example, children learn to use scissors safely to cut paper. They concentrate and show delight in their achievements. The effective encouragement of communication and language skills is promoted through rhyme time, stories and conversation. The very young children safely explore their environment. They experiment with pasta, burying items and filling containers. Children enjoy rich opportunities to learn about the natural world, as they see the tadpoles develop into frogs, and grow herbs and vegetables to eat. Children's development is carefully monitored and children make good progress.

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

The nursery operates an effective key-person system. This enables children to develop close relationships with people who have an in-depth understanding of their development. Children's behaviour is good. Staff are positive role models who praise and encourage children for their efforts. This helps to build children's self-confidence and self-esteem. The nursery is clean and well-maintained. Staff effectively promote children's health. Careful attention is taken to ensure children's dietary needs are met. The well-planned menu gives children a range of healthy nutritious food throughout the day. Drinks of water are always available. Children have many opportunities to learn about safe behaviours. For example, they learn about road safety on their many outings, and learn how to evacuate the premises swiftly in an emergency. Children demonstrate an age-appropriate awareness of good hygiene routines which help to promote good health. Physical activity is encouraged each day, as the children visit the local play area and nature area.

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

Leadership and management team is strong. They demonstrate an ongoing commitment to the continuous development of the provision. They have a good understanding of the strengths of the nursery. They use a variety of information to inform their self-evaluation. This leads to clear plans for improvement. Robust recruitment and vetting procedures are implemented. The quality of the provision is enhanced because staff are encouraged to develop their skills by attending training opportunities and gaining qualifications. Staff are encouraged to undertake training and qualifications. This has a positive impact on the provision as staff bring new ideas and confidence to their work.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY438023
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	824317
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	49
Number of children on roll	58
Name of provider	Mill Meadows Childcare Limited
Date of previous inspection	1 May 2012
Telephone number	01491 577423

Mill Meadows Nursery and After School Club operates from Mill Meadows, Henley on Thames, Oxfordshire. The nursery, after school and holiday club registered in 2011 and they are situated on the first floor of the building, with lift access if required. The nursery is open from 8.30am to 3pm, Monday to Friday, term time only. The after school club opens 3pm to 6pm Monday to Friday, term time only. The holiday club days and opening times vary. The nursery, afterschool and holiday club employs 10 members of staff and six hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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