Home Farm Day Nursery

Winslow Road, Swanbourne, Milton Keynes, MK17 0SW



Inspection date11 June 2015
Previous inspection date
8 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

- The provider and manager work as an effective team. They generally reflect well on their practice and most priorities for further improvement are quickly identified. This demonstrates a strong commitment to continuous improvement.
- The provider and manager ensure that safeguarding practice is robust, which helps ensure the well-being of all children. Recruitment procedures are thorough and all staff fully understand what they must do if concerned about a child's welfare.
- Staff are skilled at what they do. Overall, they make good use of observations and assessments to plan activities that meet the individual needs of children well. As a result, all children make good progress in their learning.
- Staff effectively promote the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. Children have daily opportunities to play outside in the fresh air, and meals are healthy and nutritious.
- Staff work together to ensure the nursery is clean, safe and inviting. Parents trust staff to take good care of their children, and children thoroughly enjoy taking part in all that is on offer.

It is not yet outstanding because:

■ Children who arrive at the nursery in the afternoon, do not immediately have access to the same wide range of activities and resources as children who arrive earlier in the day. At these times the quality of the teaching is less effective than at other times of the day.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

improve the organisation of activities during the early afternoon to ensure children arriving at this time experience the same good quality start to their day as children who arrive earlier.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with staff about their understanding of child protection, safeguarding and first aid.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies, children's records and staff qualifications.

Inspector

Sarah Holley

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 is good, overall. Staff know the children well. Younger children develop their physical skills as they tend plants and explore sand and water. Older children make marks to develop their early writing skills, some can write their names, and enjoy mixing paint. Staff are nearby to extend learning with comments, questions and suggestions. Staff's accurate use of assessment ensures that they identify any children who would benefit from additional support or who would welcome additional challenge. They work with parents and other professionals to ensure all children's needs are met. Children are well prepared for the move to school when the time comes and manage the move successfully. Staff from the nearby school visit and staff help children 'write' letters to their new teachers about their interests and any worries they may have. Children are thrilled when they receive letters back. For most of the day children have lots of choice about what they can do. However, for some children arriving in the afternoon the choice is more restricted until other children have woken up from their afternoon sleep.

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

Children's care needs are well met. Staff make good use of nappy changing times to chat and sing with very young children, which promotes their developing language well and further develops bonds between staff and children. There are robust systems in place to ensure children cannot leave the premises without an adult and to ensure that visitors cannot enter uninvited. This helps ensure children's safety. Children take part in regular cookery activities and staff use these to help develop their understanding of a healthy lifestyle. Staff further extend this by being good role models; they eat their meals with the children and promote an interest in healthy foods. Staff are quick to praise children when they are kind or considerate, and deal appropriately with any challenging behaviour. As a result, children learn about acceptable behaviour and grow in self-esteem and confidence.

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

The provider and manager fully understand and implement the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They ensure staff are well supported to improve their practice and understanding still further with an effective programme of supervisions, information sharing and training. They encourage all staff to gain childcare qualifications. As a result, high standards of care and education for all children are maintained. The manager routinely reviews the progress of all children and ensures the provider is kept informed. Together they plan how to address identified areas for improvement. For example, they identified how to extend the access to art and mark making resources for older children.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY346878

Local authorityBuckinghamshire

Inspection number 835167

Type of provision Full-time provision

Registration category Childcare - Non-Domestic

Age range of children 0 - 8

Total number of places 58

Number of children on roll 119

Name of provider

Swanbourne House School Trust Limited

Date of previous inspection 8 May 2012

Telephone number 01296 720 835

Home Farm Day Nursery registered in 2007. It is located in Swanbourne, Buckinghamshire. It is open from 7.30am until 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, for 51 weeks of the year. It receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four. The provider employs 19 members of staff, 14 of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 2 or level 3.

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