

# Finlay Early Education Centre

Finlay Children's Centre, Tredworth Road, GLOUCESTER, GL4 6TL



## Inspection date

10 June 2015

Previous inspection date

14 July 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Good quality teaching helps children to do well. Staff know children's likes and dislikes and so provide activities they enjoy and that help them to learn.
- Children's language develops particularly well. Speech and language specialist support takes place each week. Staff put an emphasis on helping children to develop their listening and speaking skills each day.
- The nursery's environment gives children plenty of learning opportunities. There are lots of high quality resources and activities for children to choose from.
- Very good use is made of the outdoor space throughout the day. Children are motivated to explore and talk about what they find whilst having fun. They develop their problem solving skills and cooperate well with one another as they play.
- Staff give children clear and consistent rules to follow. As a result, children learn the boundaries of acceptable behaviour.
- Leaders know the strengths of the nursery and are successful in improving what needs to be developed.
- Leaders keep a good check of how well children are doing. They put effective steps in place to help children who need extra help to do as well as they can.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion learning is interrupted because tasks, such as tidying up or getting ready to go out to the wooded area, take too long. Children become a little boisterous and do not learn as much as they could during these times.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the quality of teaching so children experience purposeful play throughout each session.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing in the nursery, in the outdoor area and in the onsite wooded area.
- The inspector spoke with children, parents and staff.
- The inspector spoke with the nursery manager and the cluster leader.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation including children's records, staff records, policies and procedures and staff recruitment information.
- The inspector reviewed the results of the most recent parent questionnaire.

### Inspector

Susan Mann HMI

## Inspection findings

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

Staff help children make as much progress as possible. Children who come to nursery with levels of learning below typical levels do as well as other children because of good teaching. Staff use information about what children can already do to provide interesting and challenging learning opportunities. However, there are a few occasions when preparations for parts of the nursery day take too long to organise. This reduces the learning available for children. In the morning sessions, children learn to think for themselves and experience a wide and exciting range of activities. In the outdoor area, for example, a group of boys built houses for the 'Three Little Pigs'. They used logs and crates, working very well as a team to decide out how best to complete the job. During such activities, children develop their speaking and listening skills, their physical abilities and their team work to plan and carry out a task. These skills will help them settle well into school life when the time comes. In the afternoon sessions, staff are very attentive to the needs of young children. They give children plenty of thinking time to respond to questions. These young children benefit from the calm and nurturing atmosphere.

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

Children are eager to come to nursery. They quickly settle to playing with the good quality toys. They appear very comfortable with staff, readily telling them about what they are doing or asking for help. The nursery key person system works well. Staff show good knowledge of what each child needs to be comfortable at the setting. They make sure children get fresh air and opportunity to explore the outdoors. All staff take great care to improve children's self-confidence and social skills. They give them encouragement and praise their efforts throughout the day. As a result, children are confident to try new experiences and express satisfaction with what they achieve.

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

Leaders take effective steps to provide good quality care and education. The team is qualified to a high level and demonstrates a good working knowledge of early years practice. The nursery receives good support from the local authority and 4Children and has put many improvements in place since the last inspection. For example, leaders now monitor the quality of teaching by making regular observations. They support staff to make further improvement in their practice. Leaders make frequent checks of how much progress children make. They also check how well groups of children do, such as boys and girls, and make necessary changes to activities so all learn more effectively. Parents are invited to share their views through regular questionnaires. Many meet with staff to find out how their child is getting on. Staff work well with other professionals so children benefit from a consistent approach. All staff understand their responsibility to keep children safe. They are trained and experienced in what action to take should they have concerns about a child's welfare.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY463861
<b>Local authority</b>	Gloucestershire
<b>Inspection number</b>	1008559
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	48
<b>Name of provider</b>	4 Children
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	14 July 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	01452 417060

Finlay Early Education Centre registered in 2013 and is one of six settings in the area managed by 4Children. The setting is situated in Finlay and Tredworth Children's Centre in Gloucester. The setting is open each weekday during term time, from 8.30am to 11.30am for children aged three and four years. It opens from 12.15pm to 3.15pm for children aged two and three years. The setting is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are five members of staff working with the children, who all hold appropriate early years childcare qualifications at level 3. One member of staff holds Early Years Professional Teacher status. The staff have close links with the children's centre on site.

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