

Manor Farm Nursery School

Netherhampton, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP2 8PU



Inspection date

9 July 2015

Previous inspection date

3 October 2014

	This inspection:	Good	2
The quality and standards of the early years provision	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 meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff provide a safe and friendly environment where children learn through a balance of adult-led activities and times when children choose what to play with.
- Children use their senses to explore and investigate a good range of materials and resources. They are keen to take part in a variety of activities both inside and outside.
- Staff know children well as individuals. This enables them to monitor and plan for children's next steps to support their good progress in learning and development.
- Positive partnerships with parents enable staff to meet children's needs well. Parents say that staff know their children well, and that they regularly discuss their children's progress.
- Staff have a good understanding of safeguarding children's welfare and safety. Staff know how to recognise signs and symptoms and take the correct action if they have concerns over a child's welfare.
- Self-evaluation methods include views of staff, parents and children to help develop children's experiences. For example, staff have recently introduced a soft toy for children to borrow, to further develop a sense of belonging and parents' involvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The atmosphere as children gather in one group, when they arrive in the morning, sometimes becomes noisy. Some of the younger children are not confident to begin to play until they are in a quieter and smaller group.
- Staff miss opportunities to extend children's learning when they are involved in their own imaginative play, particularly when playing outdoors.

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 the beginning of the day to provide an atmosphere that enables younger and less confident children to settle more quickly and focus on activities
- extend opportunities for children to build on what they know and develop skills through their outdoor imaginative play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities inside and outside.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out an interview and joint observations with the provider.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation, which included attendance records, policies and children's progress records.
- The inspector took account of parents' views, obtained in person.

Inspector

Brenda Flewitt

Inspection findings

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

Staff have a good understanding of the learning and development requirements. They plan a wide range of activities linked to various themes and children's interests. For example, during a gardening topic children planted, nurtured and harvested fruit and vegetables. They developed skills in using tools and learnt about the changes in nature. Staff encouraged children to look at the shape and size of vegetables and to think about what plants needed to grow. Staff promote children's language skills well. They talk to children during their play; they name people, objects and actions and introduce new words. Children learn to recognise their written name through daily routines and develop a keen interest in books and stories. At the inspection, older children used their drama skills well. They acted out a favourite story involving different situations as they hunted for an imaginary bear. Regular visitors to the nursery extend children's learning in areas of music, dancing, the care of animals and physical skills.

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

Staff request detailed information from parents about children's activities at home. This enables them to respect home routines and help children feel secure. For example, younger children rest and eat according to their individual needs. Staff provide familiar routines and clear explanations so that children know what to expect and, therefore, behave well. Children learn to take calculated risks and use equipment safely as they take part in special sessions that teach children to explore and learn outside safely. Staff praise children regularly, which helps boost their self-esteem and confidence. Staff promote healthy lifestyles well. Children are developing increasing independence in practical skills and their self-care, which are important as they move on to school. Children have daily fresh air and exercise and make choices from healthy options at mealtimes.

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

The manager and the staff team communicate effectively to keep children safe and support good progress in their learning. Management regularly monitors the quality of children's development records, which enables them to identify and address any gaps in their learning. The provider understands the requirements, and follows clear recruitment procedures for checking staff suitability. The manager carries out regular staff supervision to assess the quality of teaching and to recognise any training needs. For example, after training, staff have developed various ways to encourage children's interest in letters and sounds. Parents say that they find the staff approachable and supportive; they report positively on the smooth move as children move on to the next stage of their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY344769
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	1010728
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	70
Name of provider	Cherida Felicity Daniel
Date of previous inspection	3 October 2014
Telephone number	01722 743 978

Manor Farm Nursery School originally opened in 1967 and re-registered in 2001. It is privately owned and is one of two nurseries run by the same provider. It operates from a former school building in the village of Netherhampton, near Salisbury, Wiltshire. The nursery school opens five days per week from 8.30am to 5.30 pm during school term times, and there is a holiday club offered. The nursery is in receipt of funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years old. There are 10 staff who work with the children; of whom, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications, most at level 3. The owner of the setting holds Early Years Professional Status.

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