

Bath YMCA Day Nursery

International House, Broad Street Place, BATH, BA1 5LH



Inspection date	20 August 2015
Previous inspection date	25 October 2010

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		Outstanding	1
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

- Care practices are excellent because staff make sure that children feel emotionally secure. Strong relationships help children develop independence, which prepares them well for the next stage of their education.
- Staff are good role models and children's behaviour is impressive. Children make excellent progress in personal and social skills. They are happy and kind to one another.
- Staff know the children well and are good at catering for their individual needs. Children make good progress in communication skills because staff encourage all to join in imaginative and creative play, which promotes speaking and listening.
- Staff are fully aware of their responsibility to protect children. They demonstrate that they have thought carefully about how to deal with safeguarding concerns.
- Leaders and managers regularly evaluate the quality of provision and identify areas for improvement.
- The staff have good links with families and make sure that they receive the support they need. As a result, parents are well informed about how to help their children at home, and this in turn makes a strong contribution to meeting children's needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff miss opportunities for children to see written words or numbers, to enhance early literacy and numeracy skills.
- The outside area is not fully resourced with a range of equipment to build on learning opportunities across all areas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give children more opportunities to see written words and numbers, to promote their early literacy and mathematical skills both inside and outside the classroom
- develop further a range of good-quality resources in the outside area, to build on opportunities for children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities during the trip to the seaside, and the quality of teaching.
- The inspector talked to the children, and held discussions with staff, the deputy manager, the Director of Children's Services, and the Chief Executive of the Bath YMCA at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a focused observation of staff practice and discussed this with the deputy manager.
- The inspector looked at a selection of documentation, children's assessment information, examples of planning, policies and procedures, and evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Jennifer Cutler

Inspection findings

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

On the day of the inspection, a visit to the seaside provided children with interesting and challenging experiences, which promoted good learning and development in all areas. Staff guided children's learning skilfully. For example, they developed children's social skills by encouraging them to share and take turns, and they developed their language skills by encouraging them to take part in a treasure hunt. They helped children to take risks by trying a donkey ride or playing boisterously on the bouncy castle. Children confidently experimented with sand and explored the beach environment. Staff know the children well and quickly recognise how to involve those who need extra support. As a result, some children make impressive progress in building relationships with one another. However, back at the nursery, staff have not developed the outside area enough or made the most of the inside or outside facilities to fully promote children's awareness of written numbers and words.

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

Children are happy, confident and independent because staff have excellent relationships with them. Staff show that they understand how to keep children safe and what to do in the event of child protection concerns. There is a very well-established key-person system and individual care is outstanding. This means that children feel very safe and secure. For example, they were extremely well behaved on a trip to the seaside and were very happy to explore new surroundings. Staff are good role models and speak calmly to the children to settle disputes. Staff prepare children well for the next stage of their education because they are extremely sensitive to their emotional needs and are very successful in teaching them to keep themselves safe and healthy.

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

Thorough recruitment procedures make sure that staff are suitable to work with children. Clear policies, regular supervisions and observations of staff working with the children have a positive effect on the running of the nursery. A good programme of training enables staff to develop their skills further. As a result, they are reflective practitioners and provide a good range of experiences to help children make good progress. Staff monitor children's achievements well. They swiftly identify gaps and plan activities to address individual needs. Staff involve parents closely, and good relationships with families mean that parents know how to help their children at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	133112
Local authority	Bath & NE Somerset
Inspection number	987892
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	15
Name of provider	Bath Young Men's Christian Association
Date of previous inspection	25 October 2010
Telephone number	01225 325911

The Bath YMCA Day Nursery registered in 1988 and is situated within the main Bath YMCA building. Sessions are from 8.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday all year round, excluding bank holidays and certain days between Christmas and New Year. The nursery receives 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; one holds Qualified Teacher Status and others have appropriate early years qualifications at levels 3 and 5.

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