Yew Tree Nursery

Yew Tree Farm, Tarnock, Axbridge, Somerset, BS26 2SA



Inspection date	28 October 2015
Previous inspection date	22 June 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and asses	sment	Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and	welfare	Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The management team provides excellent supervision for staff to ensure consistently high-quality teaching. The qualified staff team has good opportunities to extend their professional development, which improves outcomes for children. For example, staff have implemented more indoor and outdoor sensory experiences for the youngest children.
- Through meticulous monitoring, management quickly picks up where children need additional support to help them reach their full potential. There is excellent support for children who have special educational needs and those who are learning English as an additional language.
- Staff work closely with parents and other early years providers to understand children's starting points when they first attend. This helps staff to ensure their planning is sharply focused. They then adapt it on a daily basis to meet children's exact needs.
- Babies and young children develop extremely strong attachments to their key person. The key person carries out all their personal care and meets their physical and emotional needs exceptionally well.
- Staff skilfully promote children's personal, social and emotional development. They provide highly successful support, which enables children to manage their own behaviour. Children share, are kind to others and work together harmoniously.
- Staff support children highly effectively to manage appropriate risks for themselves. For example, older children learn to push their friends on a swing from a safe distance. Even the very young children learn to use tools safely, such as cutting up a banana.
- All staff know what to do should a child be at risk of harm. They implement the policies and procedures extremely well to protect and promote children's welfare.
- Staff promote a positive culture of valuing people's differences, listening to the opinions of others and understanding the right choices to make.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

■ use all opportunities to promote children's awareness of how colours change to extend their development in expressive art and design even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspectors observed activities and the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors.
- The lead inspector held a meeting with the management team and carried out a joint observation with the head of early years.
- The inspectors checked safeguarding information and the premises.
- The inspectors sampled documentation, including policies and procedures, children's development records and planning.
- The inspectors spoke with parents, children and staff present on the day of the inspection, and took account of the nursery's self-evaluation.

Inspector

Elaine Douglas

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The strong management team has an excellent awareness of their responsibilities to protect children's welfare and promote their development. They work together extremely well to ensure the highly effective management of the setting. Through constant self-evaluation the managers continue to drive improvement. For example, they reviewed the opportunities for children to learn about technology and updated their equipment. Children found the new resources exciting and learned a wide range of techniques. Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand the importance of monitoring children's attendance and carry out stringent risk assessments to keep children safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children are highly enthusiastic learners because the quality of teaching is excellent. They have outstanding opportunities to learn about the natural world. They help to look after the pet ducks and chickens, for example. Children solve problems, such as which are the best tools to use to fix a broken cage, and also count how many eggs they collect. They use trial and error to complete a task, such as carrying water together. Older children link sounds to letters and take pride in learning to write their name on their pictures. However, staff do not always use all opportunities to help children to notice what happens when they mix colours. Staff respond extremely well to children's interests, which motivates them to learn. For example, toddlers went to collect leaves but were more interested in the animals. Staff used the opportunity to extend their vocabulary and help them understand the meaning of words.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

There is an outstanding key-person system. Children have an individual member of staff who gets to know them and their family extremely well. Parents state that they really appreciate that siblings get the same key person when they move rooms. In addition, children are also part of a key family group. Children have exceptionally high self-esteem and are confident to move around the premises and lead their learning. The highly stimulating environment has an extremely positive impact on children's well-being. They relish the opportunities to be outdoors and gain an excellent awareness of safe and healthy practices. Staff skilfully ensure that they do not inhibit children's learning. Children comment that 'it doesn't matter if they get dirty, it just washes off'.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make outstanding progress in their learning and development. The excellent partnerships with parents, outside agencies and other early years providers have a significant impact on children's well-being and learning. Staff prepare children extremely well for their next stage of learning and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number 511150

Local authority Somerset

Inspection number 836954

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Age range of children 0 - 8

Total number of places 100

Number of children on roll 161

Name of provider Wendy Griffin

Date of previous inspection 22 June 2009

Telephone number 01934 750556

Yew Tree Nursery registered in 1998 and is privately owned. It is situated in the rural village of Tarnock, near Axbridge, Somerset. The nursery is open each weekday from 7am to 6.30pm for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 29 members of staff, 25 of whom hold an early years qualification at level 3. One member of staff holds a qualification at level 6, one holds an early years qualification at level 5 and two hold qualifications at level 4. In addition, there are administrative and domestic staff.

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