

# Down On The Farm

Norton Brook Farm, Grafton, HEREFORD, HR2 8ED



<b>Inspection date</b>	29 October 2015
Previous inspection date	25 March 2011

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

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Managers and staff demonstrate a good commitment to improving outcomes for all children. The staff team understands how children learn and develop. Good teaching means children are provided with interesting and challenging activities. This has a positive impact on the progress children make.
- Staff are kind, caring and friendly. They get to know children and their families well. Children are happy and settled at this welcoming nursery. They are confident to explore, arrive happily and are eager to join in with activities. This demonstrates that they feel emotionally secure.
- Managers and staff monitor children's progress regularly. They make effective use of the information gathered to plan for children's next steps for learning. Consequently, all children make good progress in their learning and development.
- Staff regularly talk with parents, teachers and other professionals who are involved with children's care and education. This helps to complement children's experiences between home, nursery and other settings attended.
- Children are very well supported when they move on to pre-school or school. Staff work effectively in partnership with other professionals to help prepare children for the changes ahead.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Observations of staff practice are not always focused on their teaching skills in order to help raise teaching to the next level.
- Some group activities are not managed as well as others. On occasions, some children become distracted and are not fully engaged in their learning.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- look more closely at the impact of teaching and use this information to share good practice, and help children achieve at the highest level
- review the organisation of group times so that all children stay focused and engaged in their learning.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Amanda Tompkin

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

All of the staff are either qualified or working towards a relevant qualification. Managers and staff keep up to date with changes and maintain their professional development through attendance on courses. This has a positive impact upon the quality of teaching. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Children are supervised well both indoors and outdoors. Staff understand the importance of reporting concerns promptly and are aware of the procedures to follow should they need to. Managers evaluate the nursery, taking into account the views of parents and children. They identify strengths and weaknesses of the provision and set targets for continuous improvement. Children's learning and development are monitored well. This enables staff to close any gaps in learning and help all children to gain the skills they need to support their future learning.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff understand how children learn and develop and this is reflected in the good quality teaching. Staff carry out regular observations in order to assess children's abilities and monitor their progress. They use this information to help plan for children's future learning. This ensures that activities provided match the interests and individual needs of children. Children's communication and language skills are promoted particularly well. Staff and children engage in many interesting and valuable conversations throughout the day. Children learn about safety. For example, they know that they must hold hands and look before crossing roads when out for walks in the surrounding farmland. Babies' needs are taken care of effectively. Staff offer them sensitive support when trying new experiences. For example, during spaghetti play, some babies are apprehensive with feeling the different textures. Staff offer reassurance and cuddles until they feel ready to join in.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

There are plenty of opportunities for babies and older children to benefit from fresh air. Children have regular access to well-resourced outdoor areas and benefit from walks around the grounds of the nursery which is set on a working farm. Children develop a sense of independence. They are encouraged to pour their own drinks at mealtimes and confidently put their own Wellington boots on before outdoor play. Children are taught to say good morning, by staff who speak different languages, including Welsh. This helps children to learn about differences and respect others. Staff help children to learn the rules of good behaviour. Children learn to be polite to others, to share and take turns. Children are offered praise for their efforts and achievements. This helps to raise children's confidence and self-esteem.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children are happy and confident in their environment. They play and interact well with staff and each other. All children, including those who receive funded education, make good progress in their learning. They are developing the skills that will help them make a smooth move on to school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY348665
<b>Local authority</b>	Herefordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	849455
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	21
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	51
<b>Name of provider</b>	Polly Margaret Langford
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	25 March 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	01432 277444

Down On The Farm nursery was registered in 2007. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including one with a level 5 qualification and one with Qualified Teacher Status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 49 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am until 5pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted). If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/), write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: [psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk).

This publication is available at [www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354).

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at [www.ofsted.gov.uk/user](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/user).

Piccadilly Gate  
Store St  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted)

© Crown copyright 2015

