

Penn Cottage Nursery School



49 Woodside Avenue, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, HP9 1JH

Inspection date 26 January 2016
Previous inspection date 25 April 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Staff get to know children well and plan a wide range of activities which interest them and meet their needs effectively.
- Staff are skilled at identifying children's additional needs and seeking effective support for them. As a result, all children, including those who have special educational needs, make good progress from their starting points.
- Parents say that they greatly appreciate the care provided for their children, and the good partnerships with staff which help them to support their children's learning at home.
- Staff support the welfare, safety and care of children successfully. They help children learn about themselves and other people's lives, and promote good values, such as the appreciation of people's differences and similarities in the wider community.
- The new owner/manager has evaluated the strengths and weaknesses of the setting accurately. She has established positive relationships with the staff team and identified strengths in teaching practice upon which to build further. Action plans for future improvement are precise and focused on improving outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not have every opportunity to explore and investigate for themselves during planned adult-led activities.
- The new leadership and management team has not fully developed coaching processes to develop the staff's teaching skills to the highest standard.

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 investigate and explore to extend their learning even further
- develop coaching processes further to raise the quality of teaching to a consistently high standard.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and learning during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's developmental records, the setting's key policies and procedures, and documents relating to the self-evaluation processes, including professional development records.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the owner/manager and discussed the findings.
- The inspector took account of parents' views through discussions with parents during the inspection.

Inspector

Carolyn Hasler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The new owner/manager has high expectations for the setting. She respects the views of parents, children and staff in evaluating existing good practice and identifying precise actions to drive future improvement. The established staff embrace opportunities for professional development, such as achieving higher qualification levels. They have a positive attitude to developing their teaching skills further under the new leadership, and through regular opportunities to discuss their practice. The manager and staff monitor children's progress effectively and make good use of other professionals to assess and support any children with additional needs. Safeguarding is effective. Policies and procedures are well known by all staff. They are alert to issues which may have an impact on children's safety and well-being.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff engage children's interests well and encourage them to participate in a good range of activities. They help children learn to play alongside others, to share and take turns in games. Children enjoy any activities which allow them to explore and learn for themselves. For example, children watched what happened as they poured water with toys down a drain pipe. Overall, children benefit from carefully planned adult-led activities designed to promote their listening and speaking skills, such as talking about picture cards. Staff introduce mathematical concepts, such as 'heavy' and 'light', and children learn about shape and number, for example, while comparing objects for weighing. Staff plan well for the different groups of children. They make sure activities meet children's individual needs and ensure that they develop the key skills they need for future learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff promote children's sense of self and build their confidence. They encourage a sense of responsibility and respect for others' feelings and choices. Staff model good manners; for example, in group activities, and at snack and mealtimes. Children are well behaved. Staff encourage children's understanding of good health. They help children learn about their own limitations and how to manage risk within play. For example, children climb different types of structures, run, and use scooters safely. Staff and parents work well together to support children's understanding of healthy eating. Children learn to look after themselves through tasks such as hand washing and hanging coats on pegs. The environment is welcoming and children are able to choose activities and resources easily.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are happy and settled and show enthusiasm for learning in all areas of their development. They make good progress in preparation for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY436645
Local authority	Buckinghamshire
Inspection number	824189
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	21
Number of children on roll	33
Name of provider	Penn Cottage Nursery School Limited
Date of previous inspection	25 April 2012
Telephone number	01494672759

Penn Cottage Nursery registered in 2011 and is situated in Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire. It operates for five days a week, term time only, from 9.00am to 2.45pm on Mondays and Wednesdays and from 9.00am to 1.00pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. All staff are qualified to level 3 or above in early years. Two members of staff have a teaching qualification and one of these also has attained Early Years Professional Status.

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