

Woodlands Nursery

105 Chestnut Lane, Amersham, Buckinghamshire, HP6 6EF



Inspection date

11 April 2016

Previous inspection date

16 October 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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

- Children enjoy their time in this friendly nursery. Staff have a very good knowledge of how children learn and develop, and help them to make good progress in their learning.
- Staff provide exciting and interesting learning experiences for children, inside and outside. Children are motivated and eager to explore and learn.
- Children's behaviour is very good and sensitively managed. They learn to share and take turns, and are caring towards each other as they make friends.
- The managers and staff demonstrate a very strong commitment to raising the existing good standards of care and learning for children. They regularly seek the views of children, parents, and other professionals to make continuous improvements.
- Comprehensive risk assessments are carried out and potential risks are minimised so that children can play safely and securely.
- Parents are highly valued as their children's first educator and a wealth of information is shared to extend children's learning both at home and in the nursery.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, staff do not use enough probing questions and wide vocabulary to build on what children already know.
- Managers have not used the tracking of all groups of children as well as possible to help them make resources more inviting, particularly for girls.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor the already good quality of teaching even more precisely to raise standards further
- continue to develop the tracking of different groups of children to further enhance resources for all children, including girls.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the play room and garden.
- The inspector had discussions with children, parents and staff.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at observation files, tracking systems, the self-evaluation form and a selection of policies and children's records.

Inspector

Kim Mundy

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Managers are very good role models and they lead an enthusiastic staff team. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are fully aware of their role in protecting children from harm and know the procedures to follow if safeguarding concerns arise. Recruitment procedures are thorough and the ongoing suitability of staff is monitored well. Managers fully encourage staff's continual professional development. For example, following training courses, staff made positive changes to the children's indoor and outdoor learning environments. They also developed more activities to enhance children's communication and language. Staff establish good partnerships with other professionals involved in the children's lives to complement their care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children develop very good speaking and listening skills. For example, staff help children to make up a story and make suggestions to encourage them to think about the characters and storyline. Staff teach children good mathematical skills. For example, children confidently count, add and subtract, sort objects by colour and type, and weigh during many activities. Children enjoy the fun-filled outdoor environment. For example, they enjoy the builder's area using child-size hammers and tools, and steering tricycles. Children are creative and imaginative during art and craft activities, music and dance, stories and role play. They learn about the world, for example, as they use magnifying glasses and computer tablets to find out information when observing life cycles.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The key-person system effectively promotes children's emotional well-being, care and development. Children follow good hygiene routines and eat healthy snacks and meals. They learn good manners and are polite. Children play and work together, for example, as they fill and move large bags of soil to plant potatoes. They are proud of their achievements, for example, they share the story they made up with their friends. Children choose from a wide range of interesting materials, including those which are recycled. They learn to keep themselves safe as they make decisions about how to use equipment, such as crates and planks of wood.

Outcomes for children are good

Children have many good opportunities to recognise words and explore letters and the sounds they make. They learn to hold a pencil correctly to practise their early writing. Staff's assessments of children's learning and the management team's tracking processes are used to help children catch up in their learning. All children, including those who are learning English as an additional language, progress well from their different starting points. They achieve, and some exceed, standards expected for their age. Children are well prepared for school or the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	108003
Local authority	Buckinghamshire
Inspection number	1028427
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	30
Name of provider	Woodlands Day Nursery (Amersham) Ltd
Date of previous inspection	16 October 2013
Telephone number	01494 729 054

Woodlands Nursery registered in 2000. It is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm for 50 weeks of the year. The nursery also offers before and after school care from 8am to 9am and from 3pm to 6pm. The nursery employs seven staff and of these, six hold relevant early years qualifications. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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.

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