

Waterside Early Care and Education Centre

600 Thames Valley Park Drive, Reading, Berkshire, RG6 1PT



Inspection date

14 April 2016

Previous inspection date

5 April 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

- Staff provide good-quality resources and organise the learning environment well, which motivates children to play and learn. Children make good progress in all areas of their development, given their starting points.
- The provider follows robust recruitment procedures to ensure that all staff working with children are suitable to do so.
- Staff keep parents well informed about their children's progress. They build positive relationships with parents to achieve a joined-up approach to supporting children's learning, both at home and at the nursery.
- Children benefit from plenty of opportunities to be physically active, such as when using the garden, to promote their good health.
- Staff effectively support all children, including those who are learning English as an additional language, to develop their communication and language skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The current process for evaluating the quality of the provision does not always include the views of staff fully, such as their reflections on the impact of training.
- Staff occasionally miss opportunities to encourage children to count, and to use and understand numbers, for example, during planned activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to develop further their counting skills and understanding of numbers
- make better use of the self-evaluation process, with particular regard to gathering the views and reflections of staff, to enhance further their teaching practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff, and the setting's policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Ingrid Howell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff keep up to date with safeguarding training and have a clear understanding of how to report any concerns about a child's welfare. The well-qualified staff team works well together. For example, the manager provides regular support, such as through team and one-to-one meetings, to help staff in their roles and to also monitor and address children's progress. The management team ensures staff receive regular training to help develop their knowledge and skills further and improve children's learning experiences. The manager evaluates the provision and generally involves others in the process to promote continuous improvement. The previous action has been addressed, for example, all staff understand their roles in managing children's behaviour.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding of how young children learn. They use assessments well to obtain a clear overview of what children can do and what they need to learn next. Staff take into account children's interests and provide opportunities for them to engage in their chosen activities. They ensure activities link closely to children's next steps in learning. Babies enjoy exploring the different textures of materials, for example, they enjoy making dough and exploring with flour. Staff place a clear focus on supporting children's communication skills. For example, they talk to children during activities and repeat words, so they hear and learn the correct way to say them. Additionally, they promote children's early reading skills well, for example, by focusing on the initial sounds to help children make a clear link between the letters.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

There are good systems in place to help children learn about safety. Children gain a good awareness of any potential hazards. For example, they help staff to carry out risk assessments outdoors. Children take part in a range of outdoor experiences that support their physical well-being effectively. Children behave well. They know about expected ways to behave, which staff promote well. For example, children share and take turns, and are kind and respectful towards one another. The manager monitors all required records, such as those relating to accidents and injuries, to enable her to identify and reduce any risks to children.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learn to express their ideas and thoughts, for example, they join in with role play games based on stories they have read. They show that they are confident, happy and secure to move on to the next stage of their learning and school. Overall, children make good progress and any gaps in their learning are quickly closing.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY368368
Local authority	Wokingham
Inspection number	1027919
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	0 - 4
Total number of places	120
Number of children on roll	81
Name of provider	Bright Horizons Family Solutions Limited
Date of previous inspection	5 April 2013
Telephone number	0118 926 6277

Waterside Early Care and Education Centre registered in 2008. It is situated in Thames Valley Business Park, on the outskirts of Reading, Berkshire. The nursery is open five days a week from 7.30am to 6pm, all year round. The provider employs 19 staff who work with the children. Of these, one member of staff holds a relevant early years degree, one holds a qualification at level 5, 10 staff are qualified at level 3 and two are qualified at level 2. There are four members of staff currently undertaking training for a range of childcare qualifications.

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