

# The Willows, Toad Hall Nursery

Toad Hall Nursery, 705 Wharfedale Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG41 5RB



## Inspection date

24 May 2016

## Previous inspection date

23 April 2014

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

- The provider leads her team well. The members of the senior team are dedicated to their roles. Staff use risk assessments, policies and procedures to guide their practice and support children's health and safety.
- The provider and her managers evaluate their practice effectively. Recent improvements include instigating meetings that support transitions to school. Staff and parents participate in satisfaction surveys that support the provider to reflect on the effectiveness of the provision and act upon their views to drive improvement.
- Staff have a good understanding of children's individual needs. They provide a good range of activities and toys that help children to engage in their learning. Children are motivated to join in and make good developmental progress.
- Children enjoy their play. They have warm bonds with the staff and behave very well. They show respect for each other and their environment.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not provide enough experiences for younger children to explore freely and find solutions to their problems, for example, particularly time to investigate resources outdoors.
- Although the partnerships with parents are improving, strategies to invite parents to share children's observations from home are not fully effective.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- help younger children to explore more, to build on their confidence to problem solve
- increase the involvement of parents in their children's development to help them contribute fully to their children's learning needs.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector met with the manager and members of the senior management team. They discussed how the nursery has improved recently. They spoke about the procedures that they implement to help ensure adults working with children are suitable.
- The inspector sampled the provider's documentation and children's records.
- The inspector spoke to members of the management team about how they evaluate their practice and how they work with parents and others involved in children's care.

### Inspector

Aileen Finan

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The provider uses effective systems for the recruitment and training of staff. The management team is keen to support the professional development of staff. For example, a staff member explained how training has helped her to understand the nursery's initiatives for mathematics and literacy, and other staff highlighted how leadership courses have helped them to engage with others. Safeguarding is effective. The management team ensures that staff have a good understanding of child protection and the procedures for reporting concerns for a child's welfare. Partnerships with parents are positive overall. Parents highlight recent improvements in communication and staffing. The management team works in partnership with other professionals to help children that require additional support to progress in their learning.

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

Staff have a good understanding of children's starting points and interests. They use their focused observations and assessments to plan for children's next steps. Management has implemented new systems to monitor and track children's progress, and monitors the children's learning accurately. Staff interact warmly, and help children to engage in their learning. They are confident to extend children's learning as opportunities arise. For example, staff explain to older children about safety as they build dens, and teach younger children about insects and wildlife as they find creatures in the garden.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Babies are cared for well, and they receive plenty of cuddles. Staff take the time to play with the youngest children to help them settle, and they demonstrate a good understanding of their individual needs. Staff support equality and diversity effectively. They help children to develop an understanding of the nursery's values, including tidying up. Staff encourage children to make choices about their play and to manage some tasks independently. For example, they ask older children to count how many plates and items of cutlery they need, and to set these on the tables.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children are ready for the next stages in their learning. Babies explore contently, rolling steel tins and listening to the different noises as they hit the tins together. Toddlers show confidence as they join in with action songs. They are eager to play physically, and listen to instructions as they step on and over crates. They are learning to put out their arms to balance. Pre-school children pay attention to the rules for a board game. They develop their mathematical ability as they count the dots on the dice and move their counter to the corresponding number of spaces. Children learn letters by moulding with dough to copy the printed letter on the worksheet. Children enjoy their time at nursery.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY471521
<b>Local authority</b>	Wokingham
<b>Inspection number</b>	1051748
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	72
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	92
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Carerom Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP910483
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	23 April 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	01189 692525

The Willows Nursery registered in 2013. It operates from a purpose-built building in Winnersh, in Berkshire. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm all year round, except for bank holidays. Staff can offer care from 7.30am by arrangement. The manager holds early years professional status and the majority of staff hold relevant early years qualifications. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

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