

# Barn Owl Day Nursery

1117 Oxford Road, Tilehurst, Reading RG31 6UT



## Inspection date

8 June 2016

Previous inspection date

30 July 2015

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

- The capable and resourceful manager has driven improvements since the last inspection. Her professional attitude to working with other agencies and her commitment to the nursery are clear.
- The premises are secure. There are good systems in place to ensure children enter and leave the premises safely.
- Children are happy and content in the nursery. Most arrive eager to play and learn. Staff are warm and caring, providing cuddles and reassurance when needed.
- Staff know the children well. They identify clear next steps for their learning and development. This helps them to make good progress.
- Children's behaviour is good. They are learning to take turns and staff help them to manage their feelings well.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Systems to measure how well different groups of children, such as boys and girls, are doing at nursery are only just being implemented.
- Children enjoy playing in the nursery garden, but the provision outside does not always ensure older children can access a broad range of activities and resources that cover all of the areas of learning.

## **What the setting needs to do to improve further**

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

- implement the new systems in place to track the progress of groups of children to ensure that any achievement gaps are closed
- ensure that older children can develop their skills across the areas of learning, including mathematical development and literacy, when playing outside.

### **Inspection activities**

- The inspector spoke to parents and took their views into account.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and the proprietor of the nursery.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager of the nursery.
- The inspector sampled various documents including supervision records, staff files, children's development folders and suitability checks.

### **Inspector**

Penny Fisher, Her Majesty's Inspector

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager has introduced effective systems to drive improvements. These include observations of teaching practice and regular supervision. Staff are reflecting on their own performance and set areas for improvement. These are incorporated into individual development plans. This ensures that staff continuously develop their skills. Qualifications are encouraged and this has a positive impact on the quality of the provision. Staff are given responsibility for developing areas of the provision, such as the pre-school garden. Safeguarding is effective. Designated lead officers and staff understand their roles and responsibilities in protecting children and know the action to take if there are any concerns for children's safety. Regular reviews and discussions mean staff keep their knowledge up to date.

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

There is lots of lively chatter and singing in the nursery for all age groups; this encourages children's communication and language development. For example, the toddlers recognise patterns in rhymes and refrains and join in with gusto. Babies listen attentively when staff sing, and clearly find this soothing. Staff interact well with children, using clear speech and asking open-ended questions. They are good at extending older children's vocabulary, checking that the children understand new words. For example, children are encouraged to tell staff what they can recall about nocturnal animals. Planning is based on children's interests and needs. Observations and assessments of children's development are accurate and any gaps in children's learning are quickly identified and appropriately addressed.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Good procedures help children to settle in quickly when they are new. Staff plan introductory sessions that reassure new parents and children and make them feel welcome and included. Children's independence is promoted well. They are encouraged to make choices in their play and learn to attend to their own needs. For example, children find their own tissues to blow their noses and know to wash their hands before eating. Babies and children eat well at nursery. They enjoy a range of healthy meals and snacks. Careful attention is paid to any dietary needs.

### Outcomes for children are good

Babies clearly communicate their needs, which are well understood by staff. They respond to staff positively, for example, smiling when smiled at during a game of peek-a-boo. Toddlers demonstrate good physical skills when climbing, running and sliding. They respond well to praise and clap happily when they reach the number 10 when counting together. Older children are learning the skills they need to be ready for school. They generally sit and listen well, contributing enthusiastically at story time. They concentrate for extended periods on interesting activities. For example, they explore the texture of jelly and count the pretend baby dinosaurs that are buried within it. Girls enjoy mark-making, using clipboards outside to record what they see.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY396413
<b>Local authority</b>	West Berkshire (Newbury)
<b>Inspection number</b>	1037157
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	60
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	87
<b>Name of provider</b>	Paul James Lynch
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	30 July 2015
<b>Telephone number</b>	01189425555

Barn Owl Day Nursery registered in 2006 and is privately owned. The nursery operates from a former residential house in Tilehurst, Berkshire. The nursery has nine rooms and an enclosed outdoor area. The nursery is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There are 87 children on roll, all of whom are in the early years age group. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery is open five days a week from 7.30am to 6pm all year. There are 16 staff working with the children, of whom 13 hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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