

Queen Mary Nursery

Queen Mary Nursery, Middle Hill, Aldershot, Hampshire, GU11 1PL



Inspection date

14 July 2016

Previous inspection date

21 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 feel safe and secure and have confidence in adults. Managers and staff have high expectations of what the children can achieve. They skilfully give children frequent opportunities to become independent and develop their communication and language skills. This ensures children make good progress and are ready for moving to school.
- Children behave well and remain focused on their activities for lengthy periods. Adults provide positive praise and guidance in how to treat others. Children respect each other, know how to share and interact with each other well.
- Parents are kept well informed about what their children can do and how they can support them at home. Parents have positive views of the nursery, especially how their children grow in confidence during their time there.
- Managers and staff have successfully addressed the recommendations made at the last inspection. For example, they have developed a detailed report for children to take to their new school and resources have improved, especially those to support babies' physical development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Self-evaluation does not fully take into account the views of parents in identifying further areas for the nursery's improvement.
- Managers do not make the very best use of regular staff supervision meetings to identify precise areas in which to improve teaching to the highest possible level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the self-evaluation process further to routinely include the views of parents
- build on current staff supervision processes to gain more precise information about areas of practice for further improvement to raise the quality of teaching, and children's outcomes, to the highest standard.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a range of activities indoors and outdoors for all ages in the nursery.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and the provider. She spoke to children, staff and parents at appropriate times and took note of parents' written views.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents and policies, including those for safeguarding children, records of staff suitability checks, and information relating to children's progress and how this is assessed.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity and discussed the findings.

Inspector

Joan Lindsay

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a clear understanding, gained from regular training, of what to do if they have concerns about a child. Managers regularly monitor the quality of provision and take effective action where any weaknesses in staff practice are identified. They check children's progress and provide support where it is needed to ensure all children make good progress. Staff have high expectations of what children can achieve, especially when supporting them to be independent before moving on to school. Managers and staff are consistently good role models, guiding children to behave well and to treat others with respect and empathy.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Managers and staff have a secure understanding of how children learn effectively. They put this into practice consistently and teach key skills such as communication and language well. Children have many opportunities to play and explore; they are encouraged to persevere and are praised well when they achieve their goal. Children respond by engaging in conversation confidently and using their imagination effectively, such as when they make 'vegetables' out of play dough. Staff use their knowledge and experience to ensure there are regular and accurate reviews of what children know and understand. Parents are involved well in initial assessments. Key persons ensure that parents are kept fully informed of what their children can do and how to support them at home. Children have regular opportunities to learn about different people and communities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have strong attachments to staff. They are keen to learn. Even the youngest children remain focused on what they are doing, such as feeding themselves at lunchtime. Children are confident and willing to take risks, such as balancing on outdoor equipment. They have many opportunities to develop an understanding of how to keep healthy with lots of outdoor physical play and a focus on healthy eating. Children are familiar with different vegetables through growing and picking them and using them to reinforce counting skills, for example. Children are supported to behave well through staff using lots of positive praise. For example, the 'cuddle board' in the baby room helps even the youngest children form positive relationships and to feel empathy.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They are enthusiastic to learn. They develop their key skills, confidence and independence effectively to enable them to be well prepared for moving on to school. Children who speak additional languages also make good progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY447668
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	1055804
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	72
Number of children on roll	75
Name of registered person	Aldershot Garrison Pre-School Settings
Registered person unique reference number	RP531671
Date of previous inspection	21 October 2013
Telephone number	01252324042

Queen Mary's Day Nursery registered under private ownership in 2013. It is one of four settings owned and managed by the trustees of Aldershot Garrison Pre-school Settings. The provision is situated on Ministry of Defence property in the garrison town of Aldershot in Hampshire and is primarily for children of serving forces personnel. Some places are offered to children whose parents are not in the serving forces. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. It is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm all year round except for bank holidays and a week at Christmas. The nursery employs 16 members of staff, 12 of whom hold relevant early years qualifications to at least level 3, including the manager and one other staff member who have degrees in early years. In addition, the provision employs a full-time cook.

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