

Pool Farm & Primrose Hill Nursery

17 Arrow Walk, BIRMINGHAM, B38 9HP



Inspection date	8 November 2016
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Since registration, the provider, manager and acting deputy have astutely evaluated the nursery provision and followed a clear action plan to make significant changes. This includes raising the quality of teaching and assessment, improving the learning environment and resources and forming effective relationships with parents and carers.
- The manager and staff successfully work together to promote children's health and safety during calmly managed routines and foster their enjoyment and purposeful learning during rewarding activities.
- Positive partnerships with parents ensure children's health and care needs, interests and abilities are understood and met. Parents enjoy taking part in nursery events and celebrations. They and staff often discuss children's routines, activities and progress. Parents welcome staff's advice regarding their children's play, behaviour and care.
- Staff interact well with children. They skilfully use repetition, reinforcement and questions to develop children's speech and new vocabulary. Staff enthuse children who are excited by their discoveries, such as finding carrots still growing in the garden. They skilfully coach children to improve their physical skills or to help them to recognise more complex rhyming words.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff have a sound knowledge of children's abilities and learning needs, they do not always rigorously follow these up in their planning and teaching.
- Some children are not supported well enough to join in and remain involved during some adult-led group activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus planning and teaching even more precisely on children's abilities and next steps for learning to enable children to progress at the highest level
- support children more effectively during adult-led group activities so every child is confident to join in and remains involved.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the provider, nursery manager and acting deputy manager. She spoke to staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including the nursery's action plan, records relating to children's health and safety and evidence of staff's suitability and training.
- The inspector took account of parents' views from her discussions with them during the inspection and from their written feedback to the provider.

Inspector

Rachel Wyatt

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Strong leadership and robust recruitment, staff performance and professional development procedures ensure staff are well qualified and knowledgeable. A programme of targeted training, good practice sessions and visits to other settings has enthused staff. They have followed up ideas to improve the layout of activities and resources and to enhance boys' learning and teaching of early mathematics. The quality of teaching and care is good. Good relationships with other agencies ensure well-coordinated approaches to working with vulnerable children and children who have special educational needs and disabilities. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The provider, manager and staff attend regular safeguarding training and have a sound knowledge of abuse and neglect. They carefully monitor children's welfare and take prompt action if they have any concerns.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know how well children are progressing from their regular observations, assessments and tracking and discussions with parents about their children's interests and abilities. Children enjoy learning, relishing the rich and varied activities, stimulating resources and staff's encouragement. Children respond enthusiastically to the many opportunities to experiment, investigate and discover. They are enthralled by changes observed during gardening and cooking activities. Children explore textures as they play with water, sand, soil and leaves. They mix soil and water together in pots when creating 'meals' in the mud kitchen. Children eagerly join a member of staff in looking for worms, which they count and gently relocate in another patch of soil.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The manager and staff are kind and reassuring. They help children to settle and become confident to explore their surroundings. Children are well cared for. Their dietary and health needs are carefully managed and staff give them prompt, appropriate treatment if they are unwell or have an accident. Children eat healthily, including enjoying vegetables they have grown. They are physically active and relish regular outdoor play. Staff sensitively help children to manage their personal care and good hygiene. Children are well behaved. They share, take turns and play well together. Children like to help and are often kind to other children. Staff and parents agree strategies to successfully address children's repeated misbehaviour. Children are looked after in safe, secure surroundings. Hazards are promptly removed and repairs carried out. Children move safely around the premises and correctly use utensils, garden tools and apparatus. Staff and children calmly follow the fire evacuation procedures when the fire alarm goes off unexpectedly.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and are well prepared for their future learning. They are confident, imaginative and often resourceful learners. Staff ensure children communicate well, including helping them to understand and speak English. Children count and compare numbers and solve practical problems. They identify colours and shapes and have an awareness of time. Children enjoy stories, songs and rhymes and practise early writing.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY536474
Local authority	Birmingham
Inspection number	1076985
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	70
Number of children on roll	40
Name of registered person	Priority Area Playgroups
Registered person unique reference number	RP520275
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07941701190

Pool Farm & Primrose Hill Nursery was registered in 2016. It is managed by Priority Area Playgroups and Day Care Centres. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, the manager has a degree in early childhood studies and the other staff have appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and a week at Christmas. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery supports children who speak English as an additional language and those who have special educational needs and disabilities.

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