

Westhill Nursery

West Hill House, Braunton, Devon, EX33 1AR



Inspection date 19 January 2017
Previous inspection date 29 April 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 supports staff well and encourages their professional development effectively to benefit children's learning. For example, training to support children under two years of age has successfully helped staff to review and improve the organisation of indoor and outdoor activities.
- Children make good progress from their starting points. Staff use their observations well to make precise assessments and plan for children's next steps in learning. The provider uses good systems to monitor the effectiveness of the educational provision and quickly address any gaps in children's learning through effective planning.
- Children are happy, confident and their self-esteem is good. Strong settling-in procedures benefit all children, particularly babies, as they quickly make close, affectionate relationships with staff. Children show through their good behaviour and eagerness to explore and learn that they feel emotionally secure.
- Staff have very good relationships with parents, who regularly provide information about what children do at home. Staff use this well in their assessments and to plan for future learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some large group activities are lengthy and do not support younger children effectively, who lose concentration.
- Staff do not consistently encourage children to manage their own care needs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of large group times to more effectively engage younger children
- encourage children of all ages more consistently to manage their own care needs.

Inspection activities

- The inspector talked to the provider, staff, parents and children.
- The inspector observed children and staff engaged in learning activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector sampled required documentation, including safeguarding procedures, and assessed staff's understanding of how to implement these to protect children.
- The inspector reviewed the effectiveness of systems to monitor children's progress and plan for future learning.

Inspector

Julie Neal

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The provider's self-evaluation is good. She seeks regular feedback from parents to help her monitor the effectiveness of the setting. The provider involves the staff team well to work closely together to prioritise improvements that have the most impact on children's learning. For example, they identified that they were missing opportunities to develop children's mathematics further, particularly during unplanned activities, and worked hard to address this successfully. For instance, children made pictures of 'wiggly worms', and helped themselves to rulers to measure them to see which were the biggest and smallest. Safeguarding is effective. The provider and staff have a good understanding of local safeguarding procedures and know what to do to protect children from harm. Effective risk assessments support staff well to provide a safe and hygienic environment.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan very interesting and challenging activities that encourage children to explore and investigate the world around them. For example, older children enjoy observing the birds that come into the garden. Staff developed this very well, showing them how to use binoculars to watch the birds from a distance, so they did not scare the birds and make them fly away. They looked at books and posters with children to identify the birds and went on to make tally charts so they can monitor how many of each come into the garden. Staff support babies' and toddlers' developing language very well. For example, children enjoyed action rhymes that helped them learn about parts of the body. Staff extended this very effectively, asking children to identify, for instance, 'knobbly' parts of their bodies. Children confidently pointed out their knees, elbows and shoulders.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities receive good support to make the best possible progress. They benefit from the good relationships staff have with other professionals, which helps to ensure a shared and consistent approach to planning for their ongoing learning. Children enjoy being active and make good use of space indoors and outdoors. Older children riding bikes and cars showed a good awareness of each other and took care not to have any accidents. Babies and toddlers have their own outdoor space where they can crawl, balance and develop confidence to explore and climb.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good skills that prepare them well for the next stage in their learning, including going to school. Younger children show confidence and curiosity as they explore new activities and resources. Older children communicate very well and thoroughly enjoy helping to plan activities with staff. For example, their desire to grow plants led to them growing bulbs in clear flasks so they could closely observe the roots as they grew.

Setting details

Unique reference number	106394
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	1082545
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	24
Number of children on roll	51
Name of registered person	Anne Garland and Ruth Garland Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP908951
Date of previous inspection	29 April 2013
Telephone number	01271 812938

West Hill Nursery established in 1960. It is privately owned and has been run by the same family since opening. The nursery operates from the grounds of the provider's home in Braunton, North Devon. The nursery provides funded early years education for children aged two, three and four years. It is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm, all year round. The provider, who is also the manager, holds early years professional status. She employs four additional staff to work with children, three of whom hold level 3 early years qualifications, and one is currently working towards an early years qualification.

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