

# Friends Forest Nursery

Manor Road, Ash, Aldershot, Hampshire, GU12 6QH



## Inspection date

11 April 2017

Previous inspection date

25 March 2015

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

- Staff support and develop children's learning effectively to help them make good progress and provide them with challenge. For example, they patiently give children time to explore, share information about their discoveries and extend their knowledge and language.
- Children are motivated and enthusiastic learners. Staff provide good opportunities for all children to explore the environment and teach them to understand the world. For example, during regular outdoor activities.
- The friendly and caring staff team provides positive role models that help children to develop good social skills and friendships.
- Leaders and managers coach and support staff to continually improve their good teaching practice. They skilfully show and explain to staff how to use effective and appropriate methods that successfully help children learn to behave cooperatively.
- Staff work well in partnership with parents and other agencies to meet children's individual needs, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Older children do not have regular opportunities to independently use a variety of technology for themselves.
- Staff sometimes miss opportunities to reinforce children's understanding of the importance of hand washing during forest school activities.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve opportunities for the older children to use technology independently
- make greater use of opportunities for children to learn about good hygiene practices during outings.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed indoor and outdoor activities.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector talked with staff, children and the manager at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation and discussed self-evaluation.
- The inspector took account of parents' views spoken to on the day of the inspection and from documentation.

### Inspector

Catherine Greenwood

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Managers use training and team meetings to help keep staff up to date with local child protection procedures. Leaders and managers fully support staff's professional development. For example, all staff gain childcare qualifications, including those initially employed as apprentices. Managers monitor children's progress. They work closely with staff and parents to identify and reduce gaps in children's learning. Staff have significantly improved the evaluation and quality of their teaching practice. For example, they now make effective use of children's interests and activity planning to challenge and extend their learning and development. Leaders and managers are proud of how staff provide outdoor activities in an urban environment. They focus strongly on risk assessments to help ensure that children are kept safe at all times.

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

Staff observe and assess children's learning effectively. All children enjoy outdoor activities, including babies and toddlers. During these outings, children eagerly explore the environment and regularly stop to talk about what they collect, see and hear. Children show great interest, for example, while handling birds' egg shells and watching chicks hatch on a tablet. They develop good independence during their play. For example, while filling and emptying containers in an outdoor mud kitchen. Children use their imaginations well, for instance, while pretending to roar like bears during outings in the forest.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff meet children's individual needs effectively, including children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities who are fully included in all activities. Staff form close, caring relationships with children who develop the confidence to talk and share what they know. Staff support children's good health effectively. For example, they fully support children's enjoyment of playing and learning outdoors. Children are happy, settled and well behaved. They concentrate well, for example, while learning how to keep themselves safe. For example, under staff supervision, they build and light fires and whittle sticks which they use to toast marshmallows.

### Outcomes for children are good

All children develop the skills they need for their future, including starting school. They learn about size and number. For example, children sing songs about currant buns and make comparisons as they stand in puddles in their waterproof boots. Children improve their balancing skills, for instance, while walking along planks of wood to cross boggy areas in the forest. Children develop good pre-writing skills. They enjoy using sticks and their hands to make marks and designs in gravel and sand.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	120040
<b>Local authority</b>	Surrey
<b>Inspection number</b>	1089234
<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>	1 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	43
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	68
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Friends Private Day Nursery Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP520969
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	25 March 2015
<b>Telephone number</b>	01252 405544

Friends Forest Nursery registered in 1999. It is located in Ash, Surrey. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6.30pm, excluding Christmas and bank holidays. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 12 staff, 10 of whom hold relevant qualifications at level 3 and above. Of these, three members of staff hold relevant degrees and one holds early years professional status.

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