

Beacon Nursery

Beacon Heath Childrens Centre, Pendragon House, Beacon Lane, EXETER, EX4 8LZ



Inspection date

5 October 2017

Previous inspection date

19 February 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

- Children respond positively to staff and settle easily to play. Staff get to know children and support their individual needs well. Children are emotionally secure in their care.
- Staff provide a broad range of activities that motivate children's interests effectively. Children enjoy their play and make good progress towards the early learning goals.
- The management team and staff evaluate their practice well to make improvements. For example, they have recently reviewed the indoor play environment and created more defined areas of learning that encourage children's interest and participation.
- Staff are good role models and actively support children to manage their behaviour. For example, children help to decide their 'golden rules', such as to share with their friends.
- Children gain a good awareness of healthy eating practices. For example, they enjoy nutritious snacks and meals, such as roast dinners or bean goulash and vegetables.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The management team has not considered more ways for staff to support parents with their children's learning, to share ideas for activities at home, to promote their next steps of development further.
- Staff do not always give children sufficient warning of when activities are due to change. This sometimes disrupts their concentration and opportunity to follow their own ideas.
- Staff miss some opportunities to provide more resources outdoors, to fully support those children who learn best outdoors and promote all areas of their learning more consistently.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend ways to share ideas for activities at home with parents, to help support children's next steps of development further
- improve the organisation of changes in activities, to minimise interruptions to children's play and fully support their concentration and enjoyment of activities of their choice
- make better use of play opportunities in the outdoor areas, to fully support children's interests and consistently promote all aspects of their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's interactions indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector viewed documentation, such as operational policies, procedures and required records, including those for suitability.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation of children's play with the deputy manager and discussed children's learning and development.
- The inspector met with management and held discussions about the nursery's self-evaluation.

Inspector

Mary Daniel

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff have a clear understanding of their responsibilities to protect children's welfare. The management team reviews the operational policies with staff to safeguard children, for example, notifying Ofsted of changes, and meeting children's health and safety needs. The management team ensures staff are qualified and maintain required staff-to-child ratios. They hold regular staff meetings to evaluate and develop practice, and staff have raised their awareness of ways to support children's emotional needs more effectively. Parents spoke well of their children's key person and staff keep them well informed about their children's daily activities. Staff work closely with other professionals to support children's specific individual needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The management team is supporting staff to implement a new assessment system to improve how they monitor children's progress. This is still in the initial stages, but staff know children's stages of development well and plan interesting activities based on their interests. Staff promote children's early understanding of simple technology and their imagination in play very well. For instance, children use magnifying glasses to look at the colourful leaves they find outdoors. They often play in the well-resourced home-play area and like slotting the play food bread into the toaster. They enthusiastically press a lever and excitedly say, 'It went pop!' as the bread pops out. Children like washing their dolls in soapy water and then carefully wrap them in towels to dry them. Staff encourage children's awareness of letters and sounds well, such as through songs and games. For example, children concentrate well to find the letters of their name on a computer game.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children's good health and physical well-being effectively. For example, children have regular opportunities to choose whether to play indoors or outdoors. They learn to negotiate different levels and develop good strength and coordination, such as lifting large wooden blocks to make a walkway, ramp and obstacle course. Staff actively encourage children to develop good self-care skills. For instance, children learn about the importance of brushing their teeth and know what to do in a fire drill to keep safe. Staff are consistent in managing children's behaviour. They give time for children to talk about their feelings and know staff value their views.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are curious and motivated to learn, and they develop their literacy skills well. For example, children are keen to draw their ideas and start forming recognisable shapes. Children listen attentively to a favourite story about a birthday or a leaf hunt. They join in with repeated refrains and know the colours of leaves they see in the pictures. Children develop good independence and confidence in their abilities. For example, they put their boots on to go outside and take them off on their return. They pour their drinks and chop fruit at snack time. Children gain the necessary skills to support their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY361507
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	1113661
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	2 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	50
Name of registered person	Action for Children
Registered person unique reference number	RP901399
Date of previous inspection	19 February 2015
Telephone number	01392 204669

Beacon Nursery registered in 2007. It is situated in the Beacon Heath area of Exeter and is managed by Action For Children. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 7.30am until 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding to provide free early years funding for children aged two, three and four years. There are five members of staff who work within the nursery, one of whom holds early years teacher status, two hold childcare qualifications at level 6, one holds level 5 and one holds a level 3 qualification.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2017

