

The Avenue Day Nursery - Svaernake



Unit 4, Warren Courtyard, Savaernake, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 3UU

Inspection date 18 October 2017
Previous inspection date 30 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 manage children's behaviour well. Children learn to follow instructions, share, take turns and play harmoniously together. Their behaviour is good.
- Staff build strong bonds with the children, are enthusiastic and interact well with children to extend their learning. For example, staff encourage babies to explore the toy ducks in the water tray and they thoroughly enjoy climbing into the tray, splashing and getting wet.
- Overall, staff have good partnerships with parents. They keep them well informed about their children's day and have formed good relationships with the families.
- The manager evaluates the nursery continuously. She gathers information from parents and staff, to identify what is working well and how the nursery can be improved. For example, she has introduced a new tracking system to help monitor children's progress.
- Older children have good opportunities to learn about the wider world. For example, they visit the local woodland and farm, and benefit from the good range of resources and experiences staff provide to extend learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently use parents' strong knowledge of their children on entry to identify children's starting points and inform planning from the outset.
- Although staff promote healthy lifestyles effectively overall, on occasions, they miss opportunities to extend younger children's self-care skills and to reinforce older children's understanding of good hygiene practices.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gain further information from parents when children first start about what their children know and can do, to support the initial planning of activities and experiences
- strengthen children's understanding of how self-care and hygiene routines can help to maintain their good health.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises and looked at available resources, inside and outside.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke to the manager, staff, parents and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed staff's interactions with the children, inside in all the base rooms and outside.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Tracey Cook

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager has a good understanding of how children develop. She uses effective systems to support and monitor staff practice. For example, staff receive regular supervisory meetings, peer observations and ongoing training to raise teaching skills further. Staff have recently attended behaviour management training and have used the skills they acquired to support children's positive behaviour. For instance, they have introduced an 'amazing children' board to celebrate their achievements. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff work well with other professionals and agencies to promote children's safety. Staff know how to identify if children may be at risk of harm and where to report concerns about children's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are confident to lead their own play. They play happily together with a good range of resources. For example, older children work together successfully to create a domino track. Children take turns to use the motorised toy train, supporting their understanding of the world. Staff encourage children's early literacy skills successfully and read stories that engage children and babies well. Children enjoy joining in with actions and thinking about what might happen next. Babies engage well in activities, for instance, as they develop their imagination in the role-play kitchen. Older children are enthralled, for example, as they explore the properties of a pumpkin, learning new vocabulary, such as 'squishy' and 'disgusting', as they describe how the inside feels.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide a well-resourced environment indoors and outdoors. Children are happy, confident and self-motivated in the calm and welcoming atmosphere. Staff constantly praise children, which helps support children's confidence and well-being. Children learn to manage risk well, as staff challenge them to have a go, think about dangers and how to protect themselves. For example, staff support older children to use sharp knives as they cut up a pumpkin, encouraging them to think about how to handle the tools safely. Children have good opportunities to play outside, be physically active, and develop coordination and control. For instance, toddlers laugh with delight as, with staff support, they succeed in balancing on the wooden mushroom outside.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning, including those who have special educational needs. Children are keen to explore and investigate, and make informed choices about their play. For example, they choose where, what and with whom they play. Children make friends and develop good social skills. Babies are confident to explore the room and resources, developing their physical skills, such as when they throw balls and build blocks. Children access a good variety of books independently, which helps to support their early reading skills. Children develop good skills that prepare them well for their next stages of learning and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY349149
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	1093007
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 - 8
Total number of places	80
Number of children on roll	110
Name of registered person	The Avenue Day Nursery Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP901025
Date of previous inspection	30 March 2015
Telephone number	01672870790

The Avenue Day Nursery - Savernake registered in 2007. It operates from rooms within the Warren Courtyard complex at Savernake, near Marlborough, Wiltshire. The nursery is situated in a rural setting and is in the grounds of a working dairy farm. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am until 6pm. The nursery employs 20 members of staff. Of these, 15 staff hold appropriate early years qualifications. Two staff, including the manager, hold a childcare qualification at level 6.

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