

The Barn Nursery School

Greenstead Farm, Crocklands, Halstead, CO9 1QY



Inspection date	22 February 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Leadership is truly inspirational. Rigorous self-evaluation at all levels contributes to exceptionally high standards. Leaders demonstrate wonderful passion and a constant drive to ensuring that the nursery continues to improve. This assists them in securing the highest level of achievement for every child.
- All staff are highly skilled and sensitive in helping children form secure emotional attachments and provide an exceptionally strong base for children's developing independence and exploration.
- The well-qualified staff team provides a wonderfully interesting and stimulating learning environment which is worthy of sharing with others. Children are extremely confident and enquiring learners. All children make rapid progress from their starting points.
- Partnerships with parents are exceptional. There is an exemplary focus on fully involving parents and families in children's learning. Staff and parents eagerly talk about the children's current and emerging interests and abilities. They regularly exchange ideas to further enhance children's progress.
- Leaders and staff have an expert overview of each child's learning and development. Rigorous and highly effective systems for observing, assessing and monitoring children's progress are in place so no child falls behind in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to enrich babies' experiences and maintain the excellent standards of learning already achieved.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed two joint observations with the nursery managers.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery managers. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views through verbal and written feedback provided.

Inspector

Jemma Hudson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. All staff are highly vigilant and have a deep understanding of the signs and symptoms of different types of abuse. They are confident to follow local authority procedures for reporting concerns about children. Leaders and staff share an uncompromising vision and enthusiasm for continually improving outcomes for all children. They have exciting ideas and are putting plans in motion to help them to enhance their provision for babies even further. Leaders inspire staff to continue their professional development. They encourage staff to obtain further training and qualifications and to share their experiences with colleagues. Highly positive relationships with all groups of parents and carers enhance the opportunities provided for all children. Parents pay the nursery the highest accolades.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff are excellent educators. They know every child exceptionally well and are highly skilled at enabling all children to learn. They expertly expand and develop activities according to children's interests and abilities. For example, staff superbly tailor their questioning during a group game to ensure that each child has exactly the right levels of challenge to support them to develop their mathematical skills. Babies are absorbed in their play and investigations. Staff provide them with an abundance of play materials and resources that inspire and develop their growing interests. For example, younger children delight in banging metal objects together. They listen to the sounds they make and feel the vibration as the trays hit each other.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children thrive in this highly stimulating and exceptionally inclusive learning environment. Staff are extremely nurturing and calm. They set very clear and consistent boundaries and children know the rules. Behaviour is exemplary and children manage their own play exceptionally well. Staff are extremely skilled at supporting children's independence and helping them to learn how to take manageable risks. For example, children use real china in the role-play area and learn how to clear it up safely using the appropriate tools if it breaks. Children have access to superb outdoor facilities. They benefit from invaluable daily visits to the on-site petting farm where they learn how to care for the animals.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are exceptionally happy and confident at the nursery. They welcome visitors and willingly engage them in conversation. Children are extremely independent. For example, they confidently serve their own hot lunches using a variety of implements. All children thoroughly enjoy their time at the nursery. They are very well prepared for future learning and their eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY490758
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1025949
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	1 - 5
Total number of places	56
Number of children on roll	99
Name of registered person	The Barn Nursery School Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP534695
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07444781027

The Barn Nursery School registered in 2015. The nursery employs 14 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 6, one at level 5, one at level 4 and seven at level 3. The managers hold qualified teacher status. The nursery opens Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 8am until 4pm. Holiday schemes are arranged in accordance with parental requests.

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