

Birdwood Nursery

St. Marks Methodist Church, Allenby Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 5BQ



Inspection date

15 May 2018

Previous inspection date

28 September 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 regularly check children's progress to help identify what they already know and can do. They use this information to plan activities to help support children's learning further.
- Parents are provided with good opportunities to be involved in their children's learning. They speak highly of the staff and explain how their children have become increasingly confident since starting at the nursery.
- Staff foster children's personal development well. Children's positive behaviour and kindness are shared and celebrated, helping them to feel proud of their achievements.
- Children develop the skills they will need in their future learning, including school. They are eager to learn and enthusiastically take responsibility for small tasks. For example, they help to transport toys from one area of the nursery to another.
- Staff work well in partnership with other professionals to help support children's individual needs. They share information with parents and other professionals to help support consistency in children's care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- During some activities, staff miss opportunities to build on children's spontaneous interests to increase their enjoyment and curiosity.
- Systems to monitor the progress of different groups of children are not fully robust to help identify potential gaps in their learning and help raise children's outcomes even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on children's spontaneous interests, to help them to become more engaged in their chosen activities
- monitor the progress that different groups of children make in their learning more closely, to help identify any gaps and raise children's outcomes to the highest levels.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector sampled children's development information and records.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and discussed children's learning and progress.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took their views into consideration.
- The inspector spoke to staff at appropriate times during the day and asked them questions relating to children's development and welfare.

Inspector

Ingrid Howell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of the signs and symptoms that may indicate a concern about a child's welfare. Robust recruitment procedures help ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children and are committed to their work. The manager supports her staff well to continue to develop their already good childcare knowledge and skills. She seeks their views to help reflect on practice in the nursery and agree on areas for further improvement and training needs. Children develop a good understanding of how to stay safe and manage risks. For example, staff encourage them to explore and investigate while also teaching them to understand which activities are safe and which are not.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and experienced and interact well with children. They use the same teaching strategies as the local school to enhance children's early reading, writing, speech and language skills. This helps children to become familiar with these learning methods in preparation for when they move on to school. Older children develop an awareness of the sounds that letters represent and recognise words beginning with different sounds. Staff help children to build on their understanding of the world. For example, when a child brings play money into the setting with a picture of a pirate on it, staff ask the children if they know what picture they can find on real money. Staff support children's understanding of shapes well. For instance, they use solid shapes such as play bricks to help children learn about three-dimensional shapes. Older children know that a brick is a cuboid.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and settled. They behave well and learn to treat others with respect. Staff successfully help them to learn how to lead a healthy lifestyle and keep themselves safe. For example, children know that they must wear hats in the garden when it is sunny and are reminded to drink water to keep themselves hydrated. Children have a good understanding of the routines of the setting. For instance, when staff shake a tambourine, children stop what they are doing and know that it is time to tidy the toys away. Staff effectively encourage children to follow good hygiene practices. For example, children know they need to wash their hands before they eat and after using the toilet.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are keen and active learners who develop valuable skills for the future. They engage happily in their play and show motivation and confidence from a young age. They recognise their own names and most children can write their own names by the time they go to school. They develop good physical skills as they negotiate the play equipment in the garden, such as balancing along a beam. Children enjoy using numbers and counting in everyday play. For example, they count how many objects they have and discuss who has more and who has less.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY362485
Local authority	Windsor & Maidenhead
Inspection number	1130030
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	42
Name of registered person	Sarah Louise Dunn
Registered person unique reference number	RP515061
Date of previous inspection	28 September 2015
Telephone number	01628 631024

Birdwood Nursery registered in 2007. It is located in Maidenhead, Berkshire. It is open from 9am to 12.55pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, and from 9am to midday on Thursday, during term time only. The setting receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are eight staff, of whom one holds early years teacher status, one is qualified to level 4 and six to level 3.

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