

The Willows Day Nursery

The Willows Day Nursery, 380 Redditch Road, Kings Norton,
BIRMINGHAM B38 8PS



Inspection date	29 April 2019
Previous inspection date	23 October 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
Effectiveness of 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

- The manager and staff have worked hard to improve the quality of the provision. The manager provides staff with good support, guidance and training. This has helped staff to raise the quality of their interactions with children and plan effectively for each child's learning.
- Staff meet children's needs well. A successful key-person system and effective staff deployment help children to build strong relationships with staff. Staff liaise effectively with each other to ensure that children's individual learning and care needs continue to be well supported in their key-person's absence.
- Staff provide children with a good range of opportunities to be creative. Children develop interesting stories as they play with a collection of large cardboard boxes and pretend they are going on a journey. They explore their design ideas and carefully assemble recycled materials to build models.
- All children make good progress, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Children gain a secure foundation for their future learning and school.
- Staff prioritise children's good health. Children learn about making healthy food choices, the importance of regular exercise and how to look after their teeth.
- Staff working in the pre-school do not structure some activities as well as possible to help children to achieve even higher levels of engagement and concentration.
- At times, staff do not make the best use of spontaneous learning opportunities to provide each child with highly challenging learning experiences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review and strengthen arrangements for children in the pre-school room to maximise and sustain their levels of engagement and concentration
- make the best use of spontaneous learning opportunities so that each child receives highly challenging learning experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practices and the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff, children and parents.
- The inspector read some of the setting's documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector sampled children's development information and records.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the manager.

Inspector

Anne Clift

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of how to protect children and understand the procedures to follow if they have any concerns. The manager and staff are committed to continual improvement and reflect effectively on the service they provide. They value the contributions that parents and children make to this process. Parent partnerships are strong. Staff keep parents well informed about the progress that their children are making and help to support their continued learning at home. They involve parents in establishing children's starting points and their ongoing assessments. Parents comment positively about the support that staff give them, including workshops that help parents to prepare children for milestones such as toilet training.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make good use of observations to assess children's achievements and plan effectively for the next steps in their learning. They support children's communication and language development skilfully. Babies listen attentively and respond with interest to songs. Older children confidently communicate their ideas and engage in interesting discussions. Children who are bilingual benefit from opportunities to hear and use their different languages as they play. Staff help children to develop their physical skills. Babies concentrate as they fill and empty containers with water. Older children hold their hands out in readiness to catch a ball. Pre-school children explore their sense of adventure and balance carefully as they travel across stepping stones.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff help children to develop their independence and sense of responsibility. Babies learn to drink from open cups and help with everyday tasks, such as removing their aprons. Older children manage their personal care routines well. Children learn about their local community. This includes meeting with elderly residents, the police and rescue services. Children gain an understanding of people in the wider world and about the different ways that people celebrate. Staff are positive role models and help children learn effectively to manage their feelings and behaviour. Children play together harmoniously and develop good social skills. They invite their friends to join them in play and offer them toys.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop their understanding of the world. Pre-school children explore the properties of different materials, such as deciding whether an object can be crushed using their hands. Children progress well with their literacy. Older children eagerly practise their writing, such as making marks in gloop and forming the letters in their names. They gain good levels of mathematical understanding and use language to compare the weights of bottles. They line up objects to create repeating patterns and count them. Children learn about potential dangers and about keeping themselves safe. This includes how to stay safe during online activities and when they cross roads.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY270031
Local authority	Birmingham
Inspection number	10083594
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	85
Number of children on roll	80
Name of registered person	Virdee Daycare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP907676
Date of previous inspection	23 October 2018
Telephone number	0121 458 2828

The Willows Day Nursery registered in 2001 and is located in Kings Norton, Birmingham. The nursery employs 14 members of childcare staff, nine of whom hold qualifications at level 3. One member of staff holds a qualification at level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 6pm. The nursery receives funding to provide early education for two-, three-, and four-year-old children.

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