Windmill Hill City Farm

Philip Street, Bedminster, Bristol, Avon BS3 4EA



Inspection date	22 July 2019
Previous inspection date	18 April 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Good	2 2
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 knows the nursery well. She uses information gathered from parents, children and staff to clearly identify strengths and where further improvements could be made, to build on existing good practice. She supports staff well to make these ongoing improvements.
- Children are happy in the welcoming, inviting environment where they feel at home and make strong relationships with key persons. Children are well behaved and interact confidently with adults and other children.
- Staff work well with parents to provide good levels of continuity for children's care and education. They find out about children's likes and routines so that they can tailor their approach to the individual needs of each child.
- Children have good opportunities in the outdoor area to learn how to manage risks for themselves. Staff challenge children to safely take risks. This has a positive impact on children's thinking and physical skills.
- The manager and staff do not make the very best use of their assessment of children's learning, to help identify very precisely the progress groups of children make, such as boys and girls, to help close any gaps in their learning rapidly.
- On occasions, staff miss opportunities to use verbal communication effectively, to support early speech and language skills in babies.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use children's assessment information meticulously to very precisely identify and close any gaps in their learning rapidly
- extend opportunities for babies to hear verbal communication, to develop their early speech and language skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors in all areas. She talked to staff and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector considered the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection and through responses to questionnaires.
- The inspector had a leadership and management meeting with the manager.
- The inspector looked at samples of paperwork, including policies for safeguarding, complaints, accident and medication, staff qualifications and children's records.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager to assess the standard of teaching.

Inspector

Tracey Cook

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff understand fully how to keep children safe and what to do if they have safeguarding concerns. Staff complete detailed risk assessments, helping children to play in a safe and secure learning environment. The manager has regular meetings with staff to support their professional development and improve their teaching skills. For example, following on from outdoor training, staff have created a new outdoor area, where children are challenged to manage their own risks using natural materials such as logs and pallets. The manager works very closely with the local school and other settings children attend. For example, staff share important information with the school. This helps to provide good continuity of learning for children. The manager monitors individual children's progress well and ensures children receive any additional support they need to help them catch up.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff assess children's starting points and progress accurately and regularly using information gained from parents and their own observations. Staff provide a good range of resources for children to play and explore. For example, babies enjoy selecting musical instruments as they explore and spend time investigating how they work. Staff help children to make good progress with their physical development. For example, older children learn how to use planks of wood and tree trunks to move from one side of the play area to the other, without touching the ground. This helps children learn to work together as a team, solve problems and develop their physical skills. Staff teach younger children to follow simple instructions and take turns. For example, they teach children to follow chalk arrows, to learn left and right while riding their tricycles. Staff introduce mathematics through play. For example, toddlers explore volume and capacity as they play in the water tray.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff promote children's self-awareness imaginatively. For example, they display family photographs where children can easily see them, in the homely environment in the youngest children's rooms. Children's good health is promoted effectively as they enjoy nutritious meals and play outside daily. Staff teach children to do things for themselves and follow good hygiene routines. Children learn to respect each other as they learn about different cultures and festivals around the world.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are active learners who shape their own learning experiences. Babies are focused while they test resources. Older children develop skills, such as making marks during outside play. For example, they create a food survey and confidently ask visitors what their views are, recording their findings with marks. Toddlers use mathematical language to describe sandcastles constructed in their play. All children enjoy listening to stories and their independence skills are promoted extremely well. Children develop essential skills for the next stage in their learning at nursery and eventually school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	107112
Local authority	Bristol City of
Inspection number	10061817
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	94
Number of children on roll	143
Name of registered person	Windmill Hill City Farm
Registered person unique reference number	RP524620
Date of previous inspection	18 April 2016
Telephone number	0117 9633299

Windmill Hill City Farm registered in 2004. It operates from a purpose-built nursery and an outdoor extension of the nursery 'Farm Adventurers' on a city farm in central Bristol. The nursery opens five days a week from 8am to 6pm, for 50 weeks of the year. Farm Adventurers operates Monday to Friday from 9.15am to 12.15am and from 1pm to 4pm. There are 36 staff who work directly with the children, of whom, 33 hold at least a relevant level 3 childcare qualification. Seven members of staff hold a childcare qualification at degree level.

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