

Inspection of Brue Farm Day Nursery

Brue Farm, Lovington, CASTLE CARY, Somerset BA7 7PP

Inspection date: 11 November 2019

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive as they attend this exceptionally welcoming setting. The manager and staff are wonderful role models for children. They provide a superb child-led approach which supports each child to learn and achieve. Children develop extremely secure relationships with staff, especially with their key person. The nurturing provision enables children to feel safe and secure, therefore children are confident and settle quickly.

Staff provide children with a wealth of experiences which dramatically enhance their learning and development. For example, staff support children's lifelong skills by taking them swimming each week. Children confidently splash in the water with excitement and play games as they develop their physical skills. Staff support children to develop an excellent awareness of how to keep themselves safe in water. In addition, children also attend yoga, French and sporting sessions.

All children are highly engaged in a range of activities at this vibrant nursery. Younger children demonstrate high levels of curiosity as they explore natural resources. For example, they crunch the autumn leaves in their hands to explore the different sounds and textures. Older children show excellent concentration skills as they individually add water to the cornflour to create 'gloop'. Staff encourage children to problem-solve by thinking about why their mixture may be too runny or too thick. Children show delight as they begin to add different colours to their gloop, creating different patterns and effects. Children become independent learners as they move freely between indoors and outdoors.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Managers and leaders are committed to providing children and their families with the highest quality of care and learning. They have a very strong emphasis on enhancing staff skills and knowledge. Each member of staff speaks confidently and passionately about their role within the setting. Staff show dedication to extend their own professional development, to enhance their knowledge further. In doing this, they are able to support children to achieve the best possible outcomes.
- The very dedicated staff demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of children's learning and development. Staff work with parents to gather detailed information on children's starting points. They use extremely effective observations and assessments to enable them to plan for children's next steps. Staff implement valuable teaching strategies to help rapidly close any gaps in learning. They actively involve parents in their children's learning. For instance, they invite parents in for summary meetings every four months to discuss their children's learning in detail.

- Staff provide a great range of opportunities to promote children's knowledge and understanding of the world they live in. For instance, children take part in weekly forest skills sessions where they collect natural resources and go on bug hunts. Children and staff work together to move logs to create woodland dens, enabling children to collaborate successfully with others and develop their imaginations further. Children celebrate their outdoor learning with a hot chocolate drink.
- Parents are extremely complimentary about the setting. They comment on the extensive range of activities and opportunities the staff provide to enable children to develop first-hand experiences. Parents comment on the outstanding level of care their children receive and the 'fantastic progress' they have made since starting. Parents receive verbal and written communication about their children's day. For example, younger children have a book where staff document their daily care needs.
- Staff have high expectations for all children. They provide them with continuous support and praise for their achievements, enabling children to build confidence and self-esteem. As a result, children's behaviour is exemplary. They show extremely positive attitudes to learning and demonstrate a 'can-do' approach.
- Children are eager to take part in activities that support their knowledge of the wider world. Staff use their excellent teaching skills to help children to learn about events in history. For instance, children develop their creativity as they make poppies for Remembrance Day. Staff provide children with opportunities to discuss their thoughts and ideas. For example, they use age-appropriate books and short films to extend children's knowledge of the First World War.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

All staff have a strong and secure knowledge of the procedures to follow to protect children's welfare. They have an extensive knowledge of child protection policies and procedures, including wider safeguarding concerns. Staff receive regular training to ensure their safeguarding knowledge is up to date. Managers use risk assessment effectively to ensure children's safety remains a high priority. Managers have robust recruitment procedures and complete ongoing checks to help ensure the suitability of staff. New staff receive a comprehensive induction before they start to enable them to fully understand their roles and responsibilities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY396818
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	10125861
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 to 5
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	70
Name of registered person	Farthing, Katherine Claudia
Registered person unique reference number	RP515439
Telephone number	01963 240 111
Date of previous inspection	28 April 2015

Information about this early years setting

Brue Farm Day Nursery registered in 2009. It is situated in the village of Lovington, near Castle Cary, Somerset. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm all year round, apart from bank holidays, Christmas and three training days a year. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 15 members of staff including the owner. Of these, one holds early years professional status, two hold qualifications at level 6, two have early years qualifications at level 4, and nine hold qualifications at level 3. One member of staff has an early years qualification at level 2 and is working towards a level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Terri Breakwell

Inspection activities

- The quality of teaching was observed during activities indoors and outdoors. The impact on children's learning was assessed.
- A joint observation of an activity was completed with the manager.
- Children's developmental records were observed. The inspector tracked children's progress and discussed children's individual targets with the key person.
- Verbal feedback from parents was gathered and the inspector took account of their views.
- The inspector accompanied the staff and children to the swimming pool to assess safety and the children's learning.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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