

# Inspection of Mama Bear's Day Nursery

691-693 Wells Road, Bristol BS14 9HU

---

Inspection date: 27 April 2023

|                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Overall effectiveness</b> | <b>Good</b> |
|------------------------------|-------------|

---

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| The quality of education                     | <b>Good</b> |
| Behaviour and attitudes                      | <b>Good</b> |
| Personal development                         | <b>Good</b> |
| Leadership and management                    | <b>Good</b> |
| Overall effectiveness at previous inspection | Outstanding |

## What is it like to attend this early years setting?

### The provision is good

Children arrive happily at the nursery and quickly become immersed in their play and learning. They have formed close bonds with staff. Children enjoy the time they spend with staff. They are safe and secure in the care of staff, who are nurturing and attentive to their individual needs. Babies confidently explore the outdoor area and choose to join in activities with two-year-old children, such as sitting together on a rocking toy. Staff supervise children well to ensure that they are safe.

Older children excitedly engage with stimulating activities that staff design around their interests, cultures and learning styles. They are captivated with meaningful activities that teach them about their world. For instance, young children look carefully around the garden to find caterpillars and butterflies as they learn about life cycles. Younger children explore natural resources inside, as they explore the soil, carrots and potatoes learning about growing vegetables and different textures.

Staff support children's early literacy and mathematical understanding well. Two year-old children thoroughly enjoy listening to stories. They talk excitedly about the characters and join in with actions and rhymes. Older children learn about letters and their sounds. They are keen to recall common phrases from stories. They develop their understanding of number and recognise a small total without counting. They make simple calculations, such as adding one more or two more. Children make good progress and gain a wide range of useful skills and knowledge, which prepares them well for their future learning and school.

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

- The manager and staff team have worked hard to develop strong parent partnerships. Parents are extremely positive about the care and learning their children receive and they comment how happy they are with the nursery. Staff share information with parents about their children's learning at the end of every day through face-to-face communication and the online system. They share ideas to support home learning. This helps parents with ideas about how they can continue their children's learning at home.
- Staff meet the health needs of children well. A nutritious range of meals and snacks is provided. Staff manage mealtimes well to ensure that good hygiene practices are followed to minimise the spread of infection. Children benefit from fresh air and daily exercise. Children learn about good oral health and about healthy food choices.
- Staff are positive role models for the children and understand how to support their emotional well-being by nurturing them, so that they grow in confidence.

There are clear routines in place and high expectations for children's behaviour. Children understand the simple rules and play well together, showing care and respect for each other.

- The management team and staff are passionate and have a strong vision for the nursery. They understand the knowledge and skills that children need for the next stage of their education. Managers design a curriculum with a clear intent for all children. They share this effectively with staff across the nursery. Children enjoy learning a broad range of knowledge and skills.
- Overall, staff promote children's language and communication well. Staff introduce new words to widen children's vocabulary. They constantly speak to children, narrate what is going on, read stories and sing familiar songs. However, on occasion, staff do not fully enhance children's thinking and language skills. For example, they do not always give them enough time to think when responding to the questions.
- Children have a positive can-do attitude, are motivated and confident. They have formed close bonds with staff, who are calm, nurturing and skilful practitioners. However, on occasion staff do not encourage children to do simple task for themselves to encourage and develop their independence skills.
- All children make good progress from their starting points. This includes children in receipt of funded early education, those who speak English as an additional language and children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. The management team works well with external agencies to support children's individual needs, to help all children narrow any gaps in learning.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The management team conduct appropriate checks to ensure that they employ staff who are suitable to work with children. Staff update their safeguarding training regularly. They have a secure understanding of the signs and symptoms that may indicate a child who is at risk of harm. Staff know the correct procedures to follow if they have any concern about a child or the behaviour of another staff member. In addition, they know where they can gain further support and guidance from within the nursery or through outside agencies. Staff are deployed well throughout the nursery to help keep children safe.

## What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- allow children more time to think and respond to questions to extend their communication skills
- encourage children to do simple tasks for themselves to develop their independence skills.

## Setting details

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>                     | EY355441  |
| <b>Local authority</b>                             | Bristol City of   |
| <b>Inspection number</b>                           | 10280699  |
| <b>Type of provision</b>                           | Childcare on non-domestic premises  |
| <b>Registers</b>                                   | Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register |
| <b>Day care type</b>                               | Full day care   |
| <b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b> | 0 to 4  |
| <b>Total number of places</b>                      | 68  |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>                  | 63  |
| <b>Name of registered person</b>                   | Mama Bear's Day Nursery Ltd   |
| <b>Registered person unique reference number</b>   | RP901325  |
| <b>Telephone number</b>                            | 01275 891 316   |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b>                 | 18 September 2017   |

## Information about this early years setting

Mama Bear's Day Nursery is situated in Hengrove, Bristol. It is one of a group of nurseries. The nursery opens from 7.30am to 6pm each weekday, throughout most of the year. There are 11 members of staff who work with the children, seven of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. One staff member holds a level 5 qualification. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early years education to children aged two, three and four years.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Tracey Cook

## Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the nursery received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the leaders and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector observed staff interactions with the children indoors and outdoors, in all rooms, to assess the impact this has on children's development.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documents. This included evidence of suitability and training.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector completed a learning walk across all areas of the setting and outside play areas to understand how the provision is organised.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager to assesses teaching standard.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/), write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: [psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk)

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate  
Store Street  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/ofsted)

© Crown copyright 2023