

Inspection of Sodbury Vale Day Nursery

Ridgewood Community Centre, 244 Station Road, Yate, BRISTOL BS37 4AF

Inspection date: 10 May 2023

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	Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive in this wholly inclusive and enriching nursery. They benefit from trustworthy relationships with warm, caring and friendly staff. Staff welcome and appreciate children's preferences. When the children arrive, they bring their favourite fruit from home to share for snack, which helps them feel included and valued. Children exhibit exceptional attitudes towards learning and actively engage in thoughtfully planned activities, displaying high levels of motivation and enthusiasm.

The managers and staff design a unique and ambitious curriculum, which caters to the needs of all children in their care, providing excellent support to those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Staff follow specific approaches to ensure that every child can participate fully in all activities and experiences. For example, at welcome time, some staff members sit close to children with SEND who require support. They actively use resources and equipment to better meet these children's sensory needs, ensuring their comfort and engagement. Staff seamlessly provide challenges, differentiation, and an array of opportunities for children to remember and build on their prior knowledge. For instance, staff skilfully encourage younger children to count their friends in a circle and build a tower of cubes based on the number of children. Older children enthusiastically estimate the number of younger children in the circle by looking at the tower.

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

- The managers and staff help children cultivate excellent communication skills in a language-rich environment, where interaction is paramount. They skilfully introduce new vocabulary during diverse activities. For instance, when children pretend to build a wall, staff extend their play by offering shaving foam, teaching them the term 'cement'. Children also get outstanding opportunities to engage in conversation and develop their speech. For example, children bring personal items from home and confidently share and discuss these with staff and their peers.
- Children display remarkable behaviour, forming exceptional relationships with peers and showcasing great social skills. The managers and staff reinforce expected behaviour, and children consistently follow their instructions. In addition, older children skilfully resolve conflicts and use sand timers to practise fair turn taking.
- Children enjoy highly enriching learning experiences, both indoors and outdoors, across all areas of learning. Inside an indoor den, they explore different emotions through images, fostering deep understanding. Their creativity blossoms as they use resources for artwork creation at the mark-making area.

Outdoors, children's imagination thrives while playing with large spades in the garden, and they gain confidence as they prepare their own garden with real plants and tools.

- The managers and staff foster children's independence through everyday activities. Children relish the autonomy of choosing their play options, learning to make decisions during playtime. They also hone their independence skills, as they put on their coats, cut fruit for snack, pour their own drinks, and clean up after themselves.
- Children's physical development receives excellent support. They enthusiastically engage in risk taking on garden climbing equipment, testing their abilities, and they enjoy scooter races with friends. Staff weave physical activities, such as music and movement, into the daily routine, particularly during morning welcome time. In addition, they promote children's health and self-care, initiating discussion and providing guidance on oral health and correct toothbrush use.
- Children excel in their literacy skills, enthusiastically participating in letter recognition activities and practising name writing. They access a diverse collection of books, which nurtures their passion for reading from an early age.
- The manager and staff enthusiastically encourage children to investigate their surroundings and gain insight into the natural environment. By organising trips to local shops, the library, parks and care homes, they facilitate diverse learning experiences. Children search for real bugs in the garden, and staff guide them on proper care. A bug hotel further enriches their exploration.
- Partnerships with parents are outstanding. Parents express immense appreciation for the efforts of managers and staff, who consistently extend their support to all children, particularly those with SEND, and families. Parents feel very well informed on their children's learning and receive regular opportunities for discussion.
- The managers and staff are passionate and highly knowledgeable. Their priority is to ensure that every child has the very best possible start in life. Staff feel highly valued and exceptionally well supported, creating a positive environment, where children remain the central focus.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The managers and staff demonstrate an excellent understanding of how to safeguard children in their care. They confidently respond to a range of scenarios, such as signs and indicators of abuse, radicalisation and female genital mutilation. This is consistent across the setting. The managers and staff are very confident of the reporting procedures. They supervise children very well. Staff complete a risk assessment of the outdoor environment before children access it. The premises are safe and secure.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY367490
Local authority	South Gloucestershire
Inspection number	10285555
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 at time of inspection	2 to 5
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	64
Name of registered person	Sodbury Vale Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP527619
Telephone number	01454 329590
Date of previous inspection	10 October 2017

Information about this early years setting

Sodbury Vale Day Nursery registered in 2009. It is based at the Ridgewood Community Centre, on the border of Yate and Chipping Sodbury, in South Gloucestershire. The nursery is open each weekday, from 8.30am to 4pm, during term time only. The nursery receives early education funding for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 13 members of staff, 10 of whom hold appropriate qualifications in childcare at level 3. The manager holds an appropriate qualification in childcare at level 6. There is another member of the team who holds an appropriate qualification in childcare at level 4, and there is also one apprentice.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Stella Orfanidou

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The managers and the inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of an outdoor activity with the managers.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

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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