

Inspection of Bristol University Day Nursery

34 St. Michaels Park, Kingsdown, Bristol, Avon BS2 8BW

Inspection date: 21 March 2024

Overall effectiveness	Good
------------------------------	-------------

The quality of education	Good
--------------------------	-------------

Behaviour and attitudes	Good
-------------------------	-------------

Personal development	Good
----------------------	-------------

Leadership and management	Good
---------------------------	-------------

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
--	------

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are eager to see staff when they arrive and are greeted warmly. Staff show genuine pleasure in seeing the children and chat with them happily. Caring support helps new babies settle in very well. Staff sensitively provide for babies' care needs and gently sing them to sleep. Parents say that staff have bonded very well with the children. They say that it is a delight dropping their children off in the morning, knowing that children will have so much fun and be so well cared for.

The nursery curriculum is well planned and ensures children make good progress. Children of all ages have positive attitudes to learning. Babies test out their ideas confidently. Staff thoughtfully adapt the environment so that babies can explore their current fascinations, such as transporting sand between two trays. Staff skilfully link planned experiences for the older children, reinforcing concepts. They develop children's interest in travel and transport. Staff take children on trips to the local train station. Parents are also welcomed in to share their useful knowledge, such as to discuss bridge design and construction. This inspires and motivates children very effectively. Children readily follow their creative ideas, spontaneously constructing bridges with blocks. They study photos and pay attention to details, showing confident, strong skills.

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

- The new manager has reviewed all aspects of practice since taking over last year. She works closely with the deputy manager, committee and trustees, implementing their clear action plans. Staff's morale is high, and they feel valued and listened to. Staff's support and professional development are integral to the new management's practice.
- Staff observe children as they play, tracking their achievements closely. They know children well and focus on their individual learning needs. Staff working with the youngest ages are currently reviewing their planning, making it more flexible to babies' and young children's needs. Staff are sharing their knowledge from recent training to adapt their processes suitably.
- There is a calm atmosphere across the nursery. Children show respect for staff and learn to play with each other and share toys. Children in the Toddler Room and the Cub Room benefit from the staff's use of visual cues and sessions focused on coloured 'emotion monsters'. Children relate to this well and it helps them to understand and label their feelings and manage their emotions.
- Relationships with parents are strong. Parents are well informed about their child's time at the nursery. They relish the opportunity to share their children's nursery experience during the regular stay-and-play sessions. Staff also link with other settings the children attend, helping to provide a consistent approach and to close gaps in children's learning.

- Managers and staff have an inclusive attitude to the different families that attend the nursery. Parents praise the varied nutritious menu that offers children a wealth of interesting international meals. Staff beneficially teach children about different religions and cultures. However, not all staff focus as closely as possible on children's home languages, linking to these to help them develop children's confidence and communication as much as possible.
- Children develop their independence and sense of responsibility well. They serve themselves food at lunchtime and carefully carry their plate to the table. They conscientiously clear away their things, scraping their leftovers into the bin.
- Children's health is supported effectively. Staff ensure children's dietary requirements are adhered to and children are provided with healthy meals and drinks. Children enjoy being active in the fresh air. They are busy outside. They mix items at the play kitchen, use the climbing equipment and ride-on toys and develop their skills well.
- Staff work to build children's communication. They use books and stories to engage young children. Staff model speech so children hear the correct pronunciations. Older children confidently hold more complex conversations and have good vocabulary.
- Staff lead beneficial group sessions. Younger children are keen to hold hands and sing their group song with their friends, even before their circle time has started. Staff use the pre-school children's favourite characters to engage them all effectively at group time. However, some staff do not adapt their teaching to those involved in an activity, making sure all the children can get the most out of the learning opportunities available.
- The security and safety of the children are focused on strongly. Managers ensure they review the implementation of procedures and put in place revised arrangements, for example to ensure door security is followed robustly.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- enhance the focus on children's home languages, linking to these to help develop children's confidence and communication as much as possible
- help staff adapt their teaching, making sure they support all children to get the most out of the learning opportunities available in activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	106918
Local authority	Bristol City of
Inspection number	10312361
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	0 to 4
Total number of places	76
Number of children on roll	122
Name of registered person	University Nursery Parents Association Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP903031
Telephone number	0117 9276077
Date of previous inspection	27 April 2018

Information about this early years setting

Bristol University Day Nursery registered in 1992 and is located close to the university in the Kingsdown area of Bristol. It operates from 8.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday. There are 27 members of staff. Of these, three hold qualified teacher status and one has early years professional status. There are 15 staff who hold an appropriate qualification at level 3 and four staff who hold a qualification at level 2. There is also a cook and an office-based member of staff who deals with finance. The nursery provides funded places for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Rachel Howell

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 manager and deputy manager and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provision.
- The inspector viewed all areas and discussed with the managers how these areas are used.
- The manager and the inspector evaluated the effectiveness of an activity together.
- The inspector observed the children and staff and spoke with them at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector discussed the leadership and management of the nursery with the manager and deputy manager and met with the chairperson of the committee.
- Parents shared their views on the provision with the inspector.
- Relevant documentation was reviewed by the inspector, including suitability checks and paediatric first-aid qualifications.
- The managers discussed their safety and child protection procedures, and the inspector held safeguarding discussions with members of the staff team.

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.

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/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: 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
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2024