

Inspection of Barney Lodge Nursery School

5 Westbury Road, Warminster BA12 0AN

Inspection date: 17 September 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	Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy and settled and thrive in this welcoming nursery. They arrive eager and excited for the day ahead. Staff and leaders happily greet families and make time for them to talk and share information should they need to. This helps to ensure parents leave their children knowing they are safe and well cared for.

Leaders and staff create and implement an ambitious, meaningful curriculum. There is a strong focus on ensuring children feel safe and secure. As a result, children become curious, confident and independent learners. For example, babies confidently explore their environment with staff close by to encourage them. Staff support children's learning well. For example, they talk to children about ice being cold and how it melts in the sun as children explore ice cubes. Staff follow older children's interests in the garden as they look for bugs, encouraging them to use magnifying glasses to help them find more creatures.

Staff have high expectations for children's behaviour and are good role models for children. As a result, children behave well and form good relationships with others. Babies enjoy interactions with staff and beam with excitement as they receive cuddles from their siblings in the garden. Toddlers excitedly talk to each other about the robin they are looking for and can hear tweeting in the trees. Older children demonstrate kindness to others and have a good understanding of the importance of sharing. For example, when a friend asks for a turn, children confidently say 'when I have finished' and remember to pass it to them when it is their turn.

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

- The provider has worked hard to implement changes since the last inspection. Staff report that the provider is approachable and that they receive regular opportunities to discuss their well-being and job role. For example, staff who are passionate about outdoor learning have received visits from other nurseries within the group to gather ideas about how to use the outdoor space to extend children's development. Staff feel valued and are enthusiastic in their roles.
- Staff provide children with an environment that is rich with language. Staff introduce Makaton to babies to enable children to communicate their needs. Staff play alongside toddlers, comment on their play and introduce new language. For example, staff introduce the word 'lavender' as toddlers add it to their mud mixture. Children receive praise as they repeat the word themselves. Older children snuggle up together, share books and listen intently as they retell a story to each other. Children develop good communication, language and early literacy skills.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents share their love for the nursery

and speak highly of the caring and nurturing staff team. Parents say their children have made excellent progress and that staff foster and celebrate their children's individuality. Staff provide regular updates for parents via the online system and share ideas for learning at home.

- Staff provide children with lots of opportunities to develop their physical skills. For example, staff organise activities that encourage babies to stand to strengthen their legs in readiness for walking. They develop their core muscles as staff encourage them to build up stacking cups and knock them over. Toddlers learn to take risks as they balance on the obstacle course and climb on the climbing frame which helps to boost their self-confidence. Older children develop their muscles in preparation for early writing as they manipulate play dough with their hands and cut it into pieces using scissors.
- Staff know children very well. They quickly identify if children require additional help. They work closely with parents and carers and seek support from external agencies. While staff await external input, they create individual plans for children to help close the gaps. For example, staff organise small group work with children to boost their confidence and develop their language skills. All children make good progress in their learning.
- Staff provide children with opportunities to talk about their experiences and recall what they already know. For example, at circle time, staff and older children discuss their recent trip to the local train station and talk about what they learned. However, staff do not consistently extend children's learning to get them thinking even further. For example, children use measuring tapes in the garden and say, 'They are really long.' Staff agree but do not use their interactions to help children understand the vocabulary of measure and number or help them to learn what a tape measure is used for.

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:

- support all staff to consistently extend and challenge children's learning to help them make even better progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2715177
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	10362285
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	66
Number of children on roll	78
Name of registered person	Storal Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP524868
Telephone number	01985 214286
Date of previous inspection	17 January 2024

Information about this early years setting

Barney Lodge Nursery School registered in 2023. It is located in Warminster. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, from 7.30am to 6pm, all year round. The nursery employs 15 staff who work directly with children. The manager holds a relevant level 6 qualification, 10 staff are qualified at level 3, three are qualified at level 2 and one is unqualified. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years old.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sarah-Louise Clements

Inspection activities

- Leaders 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 and children at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- 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 a group activity with the manager.
- Parents shared their views of the nursery with the inspector.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- Staff spoke to the inspector about how they support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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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