

Inspection of Madresfield Early Years Centre

Hayswood Farm, Madresfield Village, Madresfield, Malvern, Worcestershire WR13 5AA

Inspection date: 5 November 2024

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children enjoy the time they spend at this welcoming and friendly nursery. Staff are kind, caring and respond well to children's individual needs. New children are provided with gradual settling-in sessions to help them become familiar with their new surroundings. Staff know children well and use their knowledge to help children form secure bonds and attachments with them. Staff make good use of songs and rhymes to help promote children's emerging communication and language skills. They engage children of all ages in frequent and meaningful conversations and discussions. This helps children to become confident communicators.

Children develop their physical skills. Babies are encouraged to learn new skills, such as feeding themselves with a spoon. Toddlers enjoy learning to negotiate space riding on wheeled toys in the garden. Pre-school children are encouraged to join in with indoor gym sessions learning to negotiate the large balancing and climbing equipment. Children behave well because staff offer them gentle and age-appropriate reminders. All children make consistently good progress in their development. They are developing the skills they need to help prepare them for their next stage in learning, including their eventual move to school.

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

- The quality of teaching is good. Leaders and staff plan a broad and balanced curriculum that is based on children's current interests and individual needs. Staff involve themselves in children's play experiences. This helps children remain engaged and motivated. However, at times staff do not always provide enough challenge during some adult-led activities to help children progress even further in their learning.
- Staff promote children's emerging literacy skills in a range of different ways. For example, staff read favourite stories to children, encouraging them to join in with familiar phrases. They read stories with an excited tone that helps to engage children. Staff share story sacks between nursery and home, extending children's enjoyment of stories read during the day.
- Staff help children to learn the rules of good behaviour. They remind children to use 'kind hands' when playing with their friends. Children respond well to staff, such as following requests to help to tidy away the toys before getting ready for mealtimes.
- Overall, care practices are good. Staff provide children with comfortable and suitable sleeping facilities. Children are monitored regularly while sleeping to ensure they are safe. Children benefit from daily opportunities to be physically active both indoors and outside. Staff provide children with healthy and nutritious meals and snacks. However, on some occasions staff do not always

teach children the importance of following good hand washing routines.

- Leaders and staff strive to ensure children with special educational needs and/or disabilities get the support and help they need. They work effectively with parents and ensure timely referrals are made to outside agencies to ensure children are supported to make the progress they are capable of.
- Parents speak positively about the nursery and staff. They value the information they receive on the online app and verbally when they collect their children. Parents express how happy and settled their children are attending. They like that the nursery is situated on a working farm where their children can benefit from time spent outdoors learning about the natural environment. They say that they would recommend the nursery to others.
- Staff benefit from regular supervisions sessions with leaders. They receive ongoing support and mentoring to establish professional development opportunities and individual targets. Staff express how well supported they feel in their roles.
- Leaders and staff ensure the children are cared for in a safe environment. They ensure children are supervised well. Staff have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities for keeping children safe. They ensure procedures, such as following the safe use of mobile phones are followed routinely. Leaders follow safer recruitment procedures to ensure staff are checked for their suitability to work with children.

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:

- plan adult-led activities more carefully so that they provide more challenge for children
- support staff to help children learn the importance of following good hand hygiene routines and why these are important.

Setting details

Unique reference number	205288
Local authority	Worcestershire
Inspection number	10370137
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	188
Number of children on roll	146
Name of registered person	Madresfield Early Years Centre Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP907612
Telephone number	01684 574378
Date of previous inspection	6 April 2022

Information about this early years setting

Madresfield Early Years Centre registered in 1994 and is located in Malvern. The nursery employs 48 members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 7, four hold level 5, 24 hold level 3, and 11 hold level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. A holiday play scheme runs during school holidays from 8am until 6pm for children aged up to 8-years-old. The nursery provides funded early education for children.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors

Amanda Tompkin
Tracey Boland

Inspection activities

- One inspector completed a learning walk with the manager and provider to understand how the nursery operates and how the curriculum is organised.
- The inspectors observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspectors spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- Parents shared their views of the nursery with the inspectors.
- The inspectors completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspectors looked at relevant documentation and 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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