

Mama Bear's Day Nursery

261 Crews Hole Road, Bristol, BS5 8BE



Inspection date	21 December 2016
Previous inspection date	14 April 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff's interactions with children are of a consistent high quality. Staff are skilled at talking with children, extending their ideas, supporting their emotional well-being, and helping them solve problems.
- Partnerships with parents are strong and effective. Staff keep parents well informed of their children's progress, which helps them to extend learning at home. For example, staff picture messages throughout the day to enable parents to fully understand and value the activities children undertake.
- Staff and managers have effective assessment procedures in place and track children's progress effectively. This helps them to act swiftly to close any gaps in learning and to ensure all children develop well across the areas of learning.
- The manager uses individual meetings and appraisal meetings to help her monitor staff performance. They identify training programmes which improve outcomes for children. For example, staff have improved their interactions with children and have a better understanding of language development since attending recent training.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Management and staff have not fully considered the impact of the daily routine, and sometimes children's learning is unnecessarily interrupted.
- Staff occasionally miss opportunities to fully support children's growing awareness of letter shapes and sounds while they play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- revise the organisation of the daily routine so that children can develop and explore their play ideas more fully
- make the most of all opportunities that arise to fully support and extend children's understanding of the written word.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staffs interactions with children across the setting.
- The inspector looked at documentation including children's learning journals.
- The inspector held a leadership and management meeting with the management team.
- The inspector spoke with children and took the views of parents into account.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Angela Cogan

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Staff and managers understand child protection issues and safeguarding procedures, including identifying children at risk of being drawn into extreme views. Staff keep children safe and have policies in place to support their practice. Safeguarding is effective. Managers and staff effectively evaluate the setting and make well considered and targeted improvements. For example, the garden has been recently refurbished so that children can enjoy a wide range of learning opportunities all year round. Managers and staff work well with other settings children attend to ensure children receive continuity in their care and learning. This is particularly effective children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff provide children with learning experiences that motivate them to take part. Funding is used well to support all children, including those learning English as an additional language.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff and management use their qualifications and experience well to provide an exciting learning environment. Staff pride themselves in the range of sensory play available to children. For example, children play with dehydrated potato flakes before staff add water and children explore and make links in their understanding. Children play well independently. For example, children play at a workshop area and use pens, crayons and envelopes. They talk to each other about the things they would like from Father Christmas and draw detailed pictures. Children explore materials and staff are skilled at allowing children the freedom to create their own designs. For example, children use dough to make Christmas tree decorations.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop a good range of skills that will help them as they move on to school. They behave well and think about the needs of others. For example, children learn to be kind and gentle as they bath dolls and carefully cover them in flannels for a nap. Children have lots of outdoor play opportunities and get plenty of fresh air and exercise. Staff are in tune with children's emotional needs. Children build strong bonds with their special key person and this helps children settle easily and play with confidence.

Outcomes for children are good

Children have plenty of interesting activities to explore and they do so with real enthusiasm. Children understand what is expected of them and are good at helping each other. For example, children hold the bin open as others scrap their plates after lunch. Children have many opportunities to explore and find out about the world around them. For example, they use sand in buckets and make it move across zip wires. Children become fully engaged and show a strong curiosity for learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY459721
Local authority	Bristol City
Inspection number	1069212
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	68
Number of children on roll	105
Name of registered person	Mama Bear's Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP901325
Date of previous inspection	14 April 2014
Telephone number	01179414484

Mama Bear's Day Nursery registered in 2013. It operates in St. George, Bristol. Babies use the first floor and can also use three playrooms and a sleep room. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm, or until 7pm on request, for 51 weeks of the year, closing between Christmas and New Year, and all bank holidays. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The owners employ a nursery manager who holds an early years qualification at level 3. There are 17 members of staff who work directly with children, of whom 14 hold an early years qualification at level 3 and two hold a level 6.

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