

Mama Bear's Day Nursery

Thicket Avenue, Hillfields, Bristol, BS16 4EH



Inspection date	24 November 2015
Previous inspection date	13 January 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 are warm and nurturing and interact well with children. Children form secure attachments and are happy.
- Strong partnerships between the nursery and parents effectively support care and learning. Staff share information with parents about activities and their child's day. They work together to manage areas where children need extra support.
- All children make good progress from their starting points.
- The management team has reflected well on its practice and has made rapid improvement towards fulfilling actions and recommendations set in the previous inspection.
- Staff have a good understanding of safeguarding procedures and how to identify and report concerns they may have about children in their care.
- Self-evaluation is effective and informs continuous improvement plans. It captures the ideas and views of leaders, staff, children and parents.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not always have enough opportunities to experience challenging activities that are rich and varied.
- Children, particularly the most able children, are not always fully engaged when working in small groups.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the learning environment to ensure children experience stimulating activities that are rich and varied
- develop small group learning to extend and challenge the most able children and target support to individual children's needs.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the manager at appropriate times during the inspection and in a scheduled meeting.
- The inspector observed children's activities and staff teaching inside and outside.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including a sample of children's records, planning and assessment records, and checked the suitability of staff to work with children.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, staff and parents spoken to on the day of the inspection, and of the provider's self-evaluation.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Dominique Allotey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team is focused on continual improvement through an effective programme of staff professional development. All staff have regular meetings with leaders to review their personal progress and identify training needs. Leaders share their skills and expertise with others to continually raise the quality of interactions. Safeguarding is effective. Robust recruitment of well-qualified staff, regular monitoring of teaching and sharing of effective practice ensure good practice across the nursery. The manager reviews the progress that different groups of children make and leads staff effectively to quickly close any gaps in learning. For example, they have developed the programme for mathematical development after careful analysis of children's progress in this area.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is good and children enjoy their time at the nursery. Staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They provide well-planned stimulating activities and experiences to capture children's interests and motivate them. Children's social skills are well supported. For example, they enjoy whole group playtimes outside in the garden when they chat and play with others of different ages and get to know all of the staff team. This helps children to manage change as they move up through the rooms and develop the social and emotional skills they need to start school. There is a good balance of activities led by staff and activities where children can make their own choices. Staff interact well with children as they play to encourage and support them to achieve what they need to learn next.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff ensure a well-organised, attractive and welcoming environment for children. Children develop an understanding of how to keep themselves safe and healthy. For example, they enjoy freshly prepared nutritious meals and snacks. They learn good personal hygiene, such as washing their hands before eating and after using the toilet. They develop good levels of independence. For example, staff encourage them to serve themselves at lunchtime and pour their own drinks. Staff teach children good social skills, and the positive behaviour management modelled consistently by staff helps children to follow rules and understand expectations. For example, children know to use kind hands and to take turns.

Outcomes for children are good

All groups of children make good progress from their starting points and develop good skills for future learning. Children demonstrate good attitudes towards learning and are motivated learners. This helps prepare them for the next stage in learning and the eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY412950
Local authority	Bristol City
Inspection number	1003860
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	54
Number of children on roll	73
Name of provider	Mama Bear's Day Nursery Ltd
Date of previous inspection	13 January 2015
Telephone number	01179655096

Mama Bear's Day Nursery registered in 2010. The nursery is one of 22 privately run nurseries operated by the same company. It is situated in Hillfields, Bristol and operates from purpose-built premises. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 7pm all year round except bank holidays and a week at Christmas. The nursery has a team of 12 full-time and part-time staff who work with the children. Of the staff team, all but three hold recognised early years qualifications at level 3 or above; one holds Qualified Teacher Status and the manager holds Early Years Professional Status. The setting is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

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