Mama Bear's Day Nursery

17 Oakfield Road, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 2AW



Inspection date	5 May 2016
Previous inspection date	29 July 2013

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assess	sment	Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and v	welfare	Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The manager and staff review practice well. They use feedback from parents and children and make changes that improve the provision.
- Staff use observations and assessments to monitor children's learning and development. They plan activities and experiences that meet children's needs and interests. Children readily join in and make good progress in their learning.
- The manager makes sure that staff continue their professional development. For example, staff go on training courses and share their learning with each other. They gain skills and knowledge to help them plan effectively for children's learning.
- Children have good control over their learning. Play materials are available to children in such a way that they can choose what to play with. Children are keen to take part and develop good levels of self-esteem.
- Staff have good partnerships with parents. They share information with parents regularly, to help them establish children's starting points and to support them in planning for children's future learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, staff do not always recognise when to advise children about changes in routine, to support children to finish their play and learning to their own satisfaction.
- Staff do not always give children the same messages. For example, at lunchtime some children are asked to put toys away while others can keep them near them.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review how mixed-age group times are planned and organised, to help children understand when changes will be happening and allow them time to complete tasks to their own satisfaction
- make sure that staff give consistent messages to children to help them understand what is expected of them.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents through questionnaires and the views of a parent spoken to during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff, children and parents, and held a management meeting with the operations director, lead manager and designate manager.
- The inspector sampled paperwork, including policies and procedures, safeguarding information and children's records.

Inspector

Anita McKelvey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager and staff reflect on the provision constantly. They have made a number of improvements that benefit the children and parents. For example, in response to parents' wishes for more information about their children's learning and development, staff introduced a computerised system for monitoring children's learning that is shared with children, parents and other professionals, through an interactive online system and email. In response to parents' comments that the setting was looking worn, the nursery has been redecorated and a better mat has been purchased for the soft play ball pit. The manager has amended policies to help keep children extremely safe. All staff know what to do in the event of concerns about a child. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children have plenty of opportunities to choose what they want to do. Staff watch the children, following their interests and needs to engage them in learning. For example, young children had fun searching for vehicles hidden in the soil. Staff use spontaneous opportunities to teach children mathematics. For example, they supported children to compare the size of bugs and encouraged them to count the spots on ladybirds when on a bug hunt in the garden. Children enjoy using their imagination and creativity. For example, they identified different colours on the toy rocket and made it fly away saying 'Whoosh', as they moved it around.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff help young children learn how to manage risks in the outdoor play space. For example, they supervise children as they climb up the ladder to the slide and help them to sit at the top before sliding down safely. Children benefit from healthy, freshly prepared meals and new menus. Staff teach children about healthy choices in food and encourage them to try new things, including through discussions at mealtimes. Staff teach children to respect and care for each other, and to handle minor differences. For example, staff talk with children and help them to make compromises and share play materials, such as when they make room for others in the boxes to play 'jack-in-the-box'.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop self-care skills. For example, they recognise when they need to wash their hands after playing in the soil. Most children can manage to put on their coats when they go out to play. Children develop good communication and language skills. They are happy to talk to others and express their needs. They gain important skills for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY338699

Local authority Bristol City

Inspection number 1028441

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 0 - 8

Total number of places 72

Number of children on roll 50

Name of provider Mama Bear's Day Nursery Ltd

Date of previous inspection 29 July 2013

Telephone number 0117 9742929

Mama Bear's Day Nursery registered in 2006. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm (or 7pm in exceptional circumstances) all year round, except for bank holidays. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 15 staff to work with the children. Two staff hold relevant early years qualifications at level 6 and 12 staff hold childcare qualifications at level 2 or level 3. The nursery employs a chef and a domestic assistant.

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