

Mama Bear's Day Nursery

691-693 Wells Road, Bristol, BS14 9HU



Inspection date

18 September 2017

Previous inspection date

16 June 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff know the families and children extremely well, and use this knowledge to plan and provide exemplary care and education for the children in their care. For example, all activities incorporate the children's current interests, motivating them to learn. Their excellent implementation of the key-person system supports this.
- Exemplary leadership ensures that the enthusiastic staff have a shared vision of how children learn. They work together to provide a highly stimulating and secure environment for children, to support them all to make excellent progress from their starting points.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent and ensure continuity for children. Staff and parents work together to establish clear starting points when children first start. Parents value the exceptional care their children receive. They say the setting is 'homely' and staff know each child 'as if they were the only one in their care'.
- Children across all age groups are extremely happy and are enthusiastic to learn. The caring, motivated staff skilfully teach children through play and fully follow their lead. For example, staff cleared away a planned craft activity when children indicated that they wanted to play with play dough. They set up the play dough with the children instead.
- Through careful planning during renovations of the building, almost all children are still able to continuously access the outside areas throughout the day. This excellent set up ensures that the majority of children, including those that prefer to learn outside, are catered for well.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enrich children's mathematical learning to include even more focus on shape, space and measurement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children in all rooms in the nursery, and outside.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager and, together, they discussed their findings.
- The inspector spoke to parents to find out their views on the setting.
- The inspector spoke to the manager, staff and children at appropriate times throughout the day.
- The inspector looked through a range of documentation, including suitability checks, children's learning records and the provider's policies.

Inspector

Joanne Neenan

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager is highly effective at self-evaluating the provision and constantly looks at ways to improve the already excellent practice. She sets precise targets, which include regular suggestions from parents and staff. The manager continually monitors the quality of teaching and care. She observes staff's practice regularly and checks the accuracy of their assessments of children's learning. The excellent use of funding and strong emphasis on professional development means that staff keep up to date with the latest early years practice. For example, they used training about children leading their own learning, to quickly ensure that children are fully engaged in play and are making excellent progress. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are extremely knowledgeable of what signs to look for and what to do if they have concerns about a child. The manager has highly effective links with outside organisations, including local schools and children's centres. This helps to ensure superb support and continuity for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

High-quality, innovative teaching by well-qualified, enthusiastic staff supports children's understanding of numbers and early reading extremely well, across the age groups. For example, staff support children to 'read' pictorial recipe cards and count how many cups of flour and salt they need, when children choose to make their own play dough. Occasionally, they miss opportunities to promote other areas of mathematics, such as shape, space and measurement. Children can choose from a wide variety of resources that link extremely well to real-life experiences. For example, they use real fruit and vegetables in the supermarket role-play area. Staff's knowledge of individual children and skilful teaching support children's needs and next steps in learning extremely well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are happy and behave extremely well. Transition times are calm and well managed. For example, before lunch, children go off in small groups to wash their hands, while others continue singing, to ensure there is little waiting time in the bathroom. Babies' key persons skilfully anticipate their needs and wants, and respect these. For example, staff ask babies before their nappy is changed, and when babies look up at the table, if they would like to paint and help them into an apron. Staff support children's physical skills exceptionally well and allow them to take safe risks. For example, outside, children push car tyres around the garden and over a small bridge. They wash toy cars, spray water from spray bottles and rub them with sponges.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children of all ages listen attentively and follow instructions extremely well. For example, babies find their shoes, with support, when asked. Children are independent. For example, pre-school children serve their own food. They lead their own learning and remain highly engaged in activities of their choosing. They respond extremely well to staff's praise and encouragement, and become exceptionally well prepared for future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY355441
Local authority	Bristol City
Inspection number	1093047
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	66
Number of children on roll	108
Name of registered person	Mama Bear's Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP901325
Date of previous inspection	16 June 2015
Telephone number	01275 891 316

Mama Bear's Day Nursery is situated in Hengrove, Bristol. It is one of a group of nurseries. The nursery opens from 7am to 6pm each weekday, throughout most of the year. There are 16 members of staff who work with the children, nine of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early years education to children aged two, three and four years.

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