

Wooldale Early Care and Education Centre



Wooldale Road,, Wootton, Northampton, Northamptonshire, NN4 6TP

Inspection date 26 February 2015
Previous inspection date 3 March 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The quality of teaching is outstanding. Staff provide children with a tailored education programme and plan an excellent range of high-quality learning experiences. Consequently, all children make outstanding progress in their learning, from their starting points.
- Highly effective settling-in processes enable parents and their children to build exceptionally close relationships with key staff members. As a result, their individual care needs and well-being are met extremely well.
- Excellent partnerships between the nursery, the adjoining school and other early years providers are established. Effective procedures and regular opportunities to share relevant information ensure there is a continuity of care and learning between all settings. This means that children are effectively supported during times of change, such as when they move on to school.
- The learning environment is used superbly to capture children's interest and fuel their imagination. Pre-school children build intricate models of characters from popular films from a wide variety of construction and craft materials. Staff, who encourage children to photograph their work and share these with their parents, skilfully promote the children's self-confidence.
- The manager and staff team are exceptionally dedicated to improving outcomes for children. Staff are highly qualified and very experienced. The management team set clear targets to improve and maintain the quality of their first-rate practice.
- Staff place a very strong focus on promoting children's safety and provide a wide range of opportunities for them to manage risks in their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the already excellent outdoor area, for example, by offering enriched opportunities for children to see even more text in the already outstanding learning environment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities within the three main playrooms and the outside learning environment.
- The inspector spoke with staff members and children during the inspection.
- The inspector held meetings with the regional manager, the early years quality and improvement manager and the manager of the provision.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documents.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working with children, the provider's self-evaluation form and improvement plan.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day and from information included in the setting's own parent survey.

Inspector

Andrea Price

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

Children are extremely motivated by the excellent enthusiasm and teaching skills of the staff. Staff frequently sing nursery rhymes while undertaking daily routines with babies, such as, when drying their hands and during nappy changes. As a result, babies imitate these songs and make excellent progress in their language and communication. Staff maximise every opportunity to support children in their counting and matching skills. For example, children build several shorter towers from wooden bricks, rather than one tall one, so they do not fall so easily. Staff help them to count how many bricks are in each tower and how many they have altogether. Consequently, they learn how to solve problems and develop outstanding mathematical skills. The youngest children really enjoy snuggling up to staff to look at pictures, read stories and sing rhymes. As a result, children make rapid progress in their learning, based on their starting points and they are gaining the key skills in their learning to be ready for school.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Children are relaxed and show confidence as they speak with visitors. Displays of the children's work include annotations of the children's voice. Consequently, children feel valued, respected and develop a sense of belonging. Staff teach young children about healthy lifestyles, by introducing toothbrushes in their play. They effectively supervise and model good cleaning techniques, praising the babies for their efforts, which in turn raises their confidence and self-esteem. Staff manage children's behaviour very well, as they expertly reinforce children's understanding of how to behave in a positive manner. Staff provide many opportunities for children to play outside in the fresh air. Outdoor activities support and extend all areas of learning and are really enjoyed by the children. However, there are opportunities to enrich the outdoor environment to complement the already word-rich indoor environment, for example, by including even more posters and labels.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

The manager has an indepth knowledge of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Staff are highly motivated and work well as a team. Staff access a wealth of training, where they continually improve and update their already excellent knowledge of child development which enhances the care and learning for children. Staff state that they feel extremely valued and well-supported by the manager. Staff fully understand how to safeguard children and the procedures to follow should they feel a child needs protection. The management team accurately track and monitor children's learning and development. Staff provide regular, comprehensive and informative reports for parents. As a result, staff quickly identify any gaps in children's learning and development. Partnerships with parents are exemplary. Staff involve them in their children's learning, share regular information and seek updates of the learning occurring at home to inform their planning. Parents state that staff guide and support them well during times of change, such as when children move from one room to another.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY293232
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	969015
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	90
Number of children on roll	128
Name of provider	Bright Horizons Family Solutions Limited
Date of previous inspection	3 March 2014
Telephone number	01604 877509

Wooldale Early Care and Education Centre was registered in 2004. It is managed by Bright Horizons Family Solutions Limited and is situated within the grounds of Caroline Chisholm School in the Wootton Fields area of Northampton. The out of school club operates from a room within the primary school. The nursery and out of school club employ 24 members of childcare staff. Of these, 21 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 to 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The out of school club operates Monday to Friday from 8am until 8.45am and from 3.15pm until 6pm during term time and 8am until 6pm during the school holidays.

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