

# Meadows Day Nursery

Whitelands Lane, Little Shurdington, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL51 4TX



## Inspection date

26 May 2015

Previous inspection date

18 August 2011

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is outstanding

- Staff provide a highly stimulating and exciting range of activities that enable children to make rapid progress in their learning and development.
- The quality of teaching is consistently good or better. Staff have high expectations of children, and know and understand their next steps in learning which they identify through high quality assessment procedures. Occasionally, staff do not give less confident children the opportunity to fully engage in adult-led activities.
- Staff communicate regularly with parents through a variety of means to ensure they are very well informed about the progress their children make, and how they can continue to support their children at home. Consequently, staff develop exceptionally strong relationships with parents.
- A strong caring ethos enables staff to develop very strong relationships with the children that help them to develop independence and to be self-motivated.
- Children are safe because management has an exceptionally strong focus on safeguarding, safety and keeping children healthy.
- Leadership is inspirational. The staff work very effectively as a team because they are committed to ensuring the well-being of all children and meeting their needs.
- The management places great emphasis on employing a well-trained workforce. The regular training programme ensures all staff have the chance to improve their knowledge and skills. This approach has a strong impact on children's development and progress. Staff make full use of their qualifications.
- Staff establish excellent working relationships with outside agencies to ensure children get the support they need.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure less confident children are given the opportunity to fully engage in adult-led activities.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the staff and children about the activities undertaken.
- The inspector held discussions with parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector viewed a sample of the nursery's documentation, including the safeguarding policy and recruitment procedures.
- The inspector made a number of observations of activities, including undertaking a joint observation with the manager. The inspector viewed the spaces, toys and equipment the children use, including those in the outdoor area.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, which covered methods for checking children's learning and progress, evaluating the quality of the provision and ways of promoting children's health awareness.

### Inspector

Edgar Hastings

## Inspection findings

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

Staff provide a strong focus on children learning through play, exploring their environment and being active. They plan activities so children pursue their individual interests either indoors or in the extensive outdoor area. Resources are used imaginatively to encourage children's interest and involvement across all areas of learning. Children develop counting skills during a range of activities in which staff make learning relevant to real life situations. Staff encourage early writing skills through the use of various media and activities which children enjoy, such as painting and drawing. Older children are very confident at writing their own names, carefully forming the individual letters. Younger children develop quickly through the close attention given to them allowing them to explore their environment including through the use of sensory experiences. Children gain valuable skills for the eventual move to school. Staff provide exceptionally positive support to parents through the very well planned settling in procedures for new children.

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

Children quickly settle into the nursery because the very strong and caring ethos created enables children to flourish. Strong emotional bonds and relationships ensure children feel safe and secure. Children are happy and enjoy the activities provided. Staff encourage children in their play and join in with them to extend their experiences and to make these fun. Children behave extremely well because staff use a positive approach, and are very good role models for children. Staff focus strongly on enabling children to develop self-care skills, and this boosts children's confidence as they achieve things for themselves for the first time. Staff promote healthy lifestyles through the well balanced and nutritious meal menus provided, plus many opportunities to be active. The excellent progress they make prepares them exceptionally well for the next stage of their education.

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

The manager ensures staff fully understand their roles and that they implement requirements to extremely high standards. The manager recognises training as a way of sustaining the very high quality of teaching. Courses recently attended have had a strong impact on children's development. As a result, staff have developed more strategies for extending opportunities for children to use language. The manager and staff have very successfully addressed the issue of promoting children's health awareness raised at the last inspection. Children now have many more opportunities to be active throughout the day. These actions have helped the nursery maintain its exceptionally high standards.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	101601
<b>Local authority</b>	Gloucestershire
<b>Inspection number</b>	824660
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	48
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	88
<b>Name of provider</b>	Meadows Day Nursery
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	18 August 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	01242 862040

Meadows Day Nursery is located in Shurdington area of Cheltenham. The nursery opened in 1996 and registered with Ofsted in 2001. It is open from Monday to Friday from 8am until 5.50pm, closing only for public holidays. A team of 21 staff work in the nursery. The manager and deputy manager hold recognised relevant qualifications at level 5 and other staff working directly with the children have suitable qualifications. The nursery is in receipt of funding for free early years education for children aged three and four years.

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