

Buttercups Nursery School

Parkers Field, North Petherton, Bridgwater, TA6 6PN



Inspection date

21 April 2017

Previous inspection date

14 May 2015

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The provider is a strong role model for staff. She works directly with staff, monitoring the quality of their teaching and providing immediate feedback to help their professional development.
- Staff provide a nurturing environment. Their partnerships with parents and other providers have a significant impact on children's physical and emotional well-being. For example, staff work extremely well with parents to get to know children's individual needs and provide unique settling-in arrangements. Children feel exceptionally secure and their behaviour is exemplary.
- The excellent organisation of resources enables babies and children to make choices and lead their independent play, whether they prefer to learn indoors or outdoors.
- The special educational needs coordinator provides good support for staff and children. She works well with parents and outside agencies to close gaps in children's learning.
- Staff make good observations of children's achievements and use them well to plan for their individual next stages of learning. The provider monitors children's overall development effectively to identify any gaps. All children make good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the most of opportunities to encourage children to experiment more with different ways of using resources to find out why things happen.
- Staff sometimes miss opportunities for older children to develop their writing skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- help children to find different ways of using resources to engage them more fully in finding out how things work, why things happen, and help them understand the world further
- extend the opportunities for older children to develop their early writing skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to staff, parents and children, and took account of the provider's self-evaluation.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and carried out a joint observation.
- The inspector checked safeguarding information and the safety of the premises.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies and procedures, children's development records and planning.

Inspector

Elaine Douglas

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The provider and staff understand their responsibility to safeguard children and know what to do if a child is at risk of harm. Staff carry out good checks of all areas and take prompt action to minimise any risks. The provider evaluates their practice well, seeking parents' views to support continuous improvement. For example, they have purchased resources to enhance children's role play and offer opportunities for them to discuss their feelings. Since the last inspection, the provider has re-organised their routines so that there is more space when children come inside, and they do not have to spend too long waiting for each other. This ensures children's greater safety and more time for learning. Staff have good opportunities for professional development. For example, they have gained a greater understanding of how children have different learning styles, and they plan the environment to support this successfully.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide good support for children's language and communication skills. For example, they make eye contact with babies and use words with actions. They use story sacks to engage children in talking, and staff pause for children to add the familiar words. Staff challenge older children well in their mathematical development. For example, children match groups of items to the corresponding written numeral. They find out totals if they add one more or take one away. Staff help young children notice differences and similarities. For example, they look in the mirror and discuss their eyes, hair and features.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children returning from holidays settle exceptionally quickly and are highly delighted to see their key person. Children have exceptional manners, with the staff and each other. Staff follow outstanding nappy changing procedures. For example, their hygiene practices are exemplary and they make eye contact with babies, who gurgle and squeal as they happily cooperate. Children develop an excellent awareness of keeping themselves safe and healthy. For example, they know they all need to travel around a circuit on bikes in the same direction so they do not collide. Children wear hard hats in the construction area and learn to use tools safely. Toddlers crawl along balance beams closely supervised by staff, expertly promoting children's physical development. Children help themselves at the drink stations indoors and outdoors, and older children help prepare healthy meals.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are keen learners and develop good skills that prepare them well for school. They are strong communicators and older children are confident to ask questions. Children play imaginatively and are eager to take part in creative activities. Children are extremely independent and learn excellent skills to take care of their own needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY472196
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1095508
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	34
Number of children on roll	72
Name of registered person	Nicola Jane Holman
Registered person unique reference number	RP516733
Date of previous inspection	14 May 2015
Telephone number	07503870404

Buttercups Nursery registered in 2014. It operates from premises at North Petherton Football Club, Somerset. The nursery opens each weekday from 7am until 6pm, term time only. The owner/manager has an early years qualification at level 3. She employs 10 staff to work with the children. Of these, two hold an early years qualification at level 4, six have a qualification at level 3 and one has a qualification at level 2. The nursery receives funding to provide early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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