

Inspection of Old Sarum Nursery

Old Sarum Primary School, Pheasant Drive, Old Sarum, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4
6GH

Inspection date: 23 September 2019

Overall effectiveness **Good**

The quality of education **Good**

Behaviour and attitudes **Good**

Personal development **Good**

Leadership and management **Good**

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children arrive happy and excited to attend. Staff provide comfort and reassurance for new children needing support to help them settle in and feel secure. Children form warm and trusting attachments with staff and make friends who they enjoy playing with. Staff help children to develop good behaviour overall. For example, they guide children on how to share and take turns using sand timers and help children to manage this to resolve issues. Children develop good skills to support their future learning. They all learn to manage tasks for themselves, such as helping to chop fruit and preparing the snack table and dressing themselves for outdoor play. This helps children to develop good self-confidence and independence.

Children enjoy a good range of activities to support all areas of their learning. These include mark-making activities for them to draw, write and make patterns inside and outside. Children benefit from innovative activities to broaden their experiences and to learn about their community and the world. For example, they visit a local residential home to join in activities with the residents. These include an armed-forces day making poppies, meeting very elderly residents to share life experiences and joining in the cathedral singing events.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The manager provides strong leadership and has clear goals for improving outcomes for children. She understands the diverse needs of children attending and makes good use of funding and professional agencies to help children make good progress.
- The manager evaluates the quality of the curriculum provided, and the use of space, successfully to make improvements. For example, using this information, staff have developed the organisation of resources to ensure children have quiet spaces to communicate and relax peacefully.
- Children benefit from lots of activities to support their physical development. They enjoy healthy foods during sociable meals and choose when they play outside in the fresh air. Staff provide fun activities, such as 'disco dough', to help children develop their hand muscles and future writing skills. However, staff do not consistently help some children to learn about the possible hazards when they run indoors and carry scissors unsafely.
- Staff know the children well. They work with parents to assess and plan children's learning from the start. Staff keep parents informed of children's progress as they develop.
- Staff have good teaching skills and adapt activities well to meet children's developmental needs. For instance, staff help children to learn about shapes as they construct. They challenge older children to create new shapes by combining

them, such as making a square from two triangles, to extend their learning further. Most children communicate confidently and enjoy joining in discussions with staff. However, on occasions, staff do not engage some quieter children, when they wander around, to involve them and motivate them to learn more from the activities.

- Staff encourage children to make their own choices and to lead their play. Most children confidently move toys and materials around to create their own ideas. For instance, they carry foam from the garden to show staff indoors, then combine this with water to clean the toys. Staff interact to support children's imaginative play, for instance putting lengths of 'flame' fabric around the garden to build on children's play as they dress up as firefighters. Children extend this further as they carry containers of water around to put the 'fires' out.
- The special educational needs coordinator works successfully with parents and other professionals to meet children's needs consistently and well. She provides focused activities with specific and realistic goals to support children's developmental needs. She adapts these skilfully in response to children's attention and interest to help them make better progress.
- The well-qualified team of staff benefits from the manager's support and coaching and values professional development to enhance children's experiences. For example, following training, staff have introduced bags of mathematical activities and story sacks for parents to use with their children at home. This has helped to improve working partnerships and children's learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a good understanding of their responsibilities to safeguard children's welfare. They are aware of the risks to children and the correct procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child. The manager provides ongoing development to ensure staff are kept up to date with new guidance. She follows robust procedures to ensure staff are suitable to work with children and prepares them well for their role. Staff maintain safe and secure environments for children to protect them from harm.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide children with even more guidance and consistent support to help them understand how to keep themselves safe in their play
- provide more support to engage and include quieter children in the activities to motivate them to learn even further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY441669
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	10067719
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	3 to 4
Total number of places	38
Number of children on roll	33
Name of registered person	Old Sarum Nursery
Registered person unique reference number	RP904959
Telephone number	01722 332233
Date of previous inspection	18 April 2016

Information about this early years setting

Old Sarum Nursery registered in 2012 and is one of two settings run by the same provider in Old Sarum, Wiltshire. The group is open during term time only, providing sessions from 8am to 3.30pm. It receives funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged three and four years. The group employs six members of staff. The manager holds a degree in early years education and care, and the deputy an early years qualification at level 4. All other staff hold early years qualifications at levels 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Bridget Copson

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching in the playroom and outdoor play areas.
- The inspector looked at a sample of children's records and talked to staff about how they plan and support children's learning.
- The inspector assessed the suitability of staff and discussed the manager's understanding of the early years foundation stage and goals for improvement.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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