

Inspection of Beechwood Farm Day Nursery

Beechwood Farm, Dutton Lane, Cuddington, NORTHWICH CW8 2TN

Inspection date: 21 June 2024

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy and carefree at this bespoke nursery. Leaders have high expectations of what children can achieve. They plan a curriculum that is focused on providing children with experiences they would not normally have. Children are immersed into farm life and spend a lot of time outdoors. They learn about nature, life cycles and build their confidence when caring for the animals on the farm. Children observe unique experiences, such as lambing season and ducklings hatching from eggs. Staff teach children about the importance of sharing and taking turns with their friends. Children are well behaved and have a lovely attitude to learning. They are motivated and eager to take part in the activities and experiences on offer.

Communication and language development are promoted well. Staff talk to children a lot and introduce a range of new words. Babies copy single words, such as 'pop' when learning to blow bubbles. Older children confidently introduce themselves and share information about their experiences at nursery and home. They discuss the things they enjoy about nursery, such as playing with their friends and celebrating children's birthdays. For those children who do not yet communicate verbally, staff use sign language to help them to express their needs. This helps all children to be prepared for the next stage in their learning.

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

- Leaders have a good understanding of how to plan a broad and balanced curriculum that helps children to make good progress. A big focus is placed on children leading their own learning and developing the independence skills needed in preparation for school. Staff get to know children well and plan accurate next steps in learning. However, they do not always implement them during their interactions with children. This hinders children's opportunities to build on their existing skills more consistently throughout the day.
- Support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) is securely embedded. The special needs and disability coordinator is knowledgeable and swift with her interventions. Additional funding is used effectively to help support those children it is allocated to. For instance, leaders increase the ratios to provide children with one-to-one support. This helps to narrow the gaps in learning and support all children, including those with SEND, to make good progress.
- Children have lots of opportunities to enjoy the outdoor area. Babies go on farmyard walks and have a picnic in the grounds. Staff teach toddler children how to use the swing independently by building up strength and momentum in their leg movements. Children show resilience and perseverance. They listen carefully to staff and follow their instructions until they succeed. Children

develop lots of skills they need for the future.

- Parents are happy with the quality of care that children receive. Staff seek a wealth of information when children first start to help them plan appropriate experiences. Parents receive verbal feedback about children each day. However, not all parents receive the information they want about children's progress and what they need to learn next. This means some parents are not able to extend children's learning at home as much as they would like to.
- Literacy development is well promoted. Older children engage well at storytime, skilfully identifying rhyming words in the book. Younger children explore books about a farm, which staff link to their real-life experiences. Staff provide sensory activities for babies to strengthen their finger and hand muscles. This helps to prepare them for early writing as they move through the nursery.
- The curriculum helps children to gain a broad knowledge of the similarities and differences between themselves and others. Children explore different festivals, cultures and family dynamics. Staff teach children about black woman history month to further expand their knowledge of people who are different to themselves. This helps to build children's understanding and prepares them for life in modern Britain.
- Leaders are dedicated to their roles and want to provide high-quality care for children. They support staff well, through ongoing supervision and monitoring of their practice. Staff access professional development opportunities to improve their skills. However, following staff induction, leaders do not always check that new staff have a good understanding of the policies and procedures. Consequently, there are some gaps in the knowledge of newer staff.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive cultures around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- support staff to implement children's next steps more consistently throughout the day
- provide all parents with the information they require to help them extend children's learning at home
- strengthen the procedures for induction to help newer staff understand the policies and procedures more clearly.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2744173
Local authority	Cheshire West and Chester
Inspection number	10349350
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	63
Number of children on roll	58
Name of registered person	Beechwood Farm Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	2744172
Telephone number	01606884072
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Beechwood Farm Day Nursery registered in 2023 and is situated in Cuddington, Cheshire. The nursery operates Monday to Friday, from 7am until 6pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and one week at Christmas. There are currently 20 members of childcare staff. Of these, 12 are qualified at level 2 or above. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Kayte Farrell

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- Staff spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The special educational needs coordinator spoke to the inspector about how they support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.

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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