

Inspection of Greenwoods Nursery Limited Coalway

Forestry Commission, Former Management Training Centre, Prosper lane, Coleford,
Gloucestershire GL16 7JY

Inspection date: 23 August 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

Staff are highly responsive to the needs of all children attending the nursery. Children settle in quickly because staff carefully consider their transitions. For example, staff provide a home-from-home environment for babies when they start. Staff work closely with parents to gather information about children when they join and continually as they grow older. They use this information to plan a well-sequenced curriculum according to children's learning needs and interests.

Children behave well, have fun and are safe at the nursery. Staff read stories that are linked to children's experiences, and children learn to recognise their names. This supports their literacy development. Children learn early mathematics by counting the number of plates that are needed at lunchtime. Staff use the local community and woodland well to enrich children's learning experiences. They prioritise support for children's communication and language and know the importance of this for children's learning. Babies show strong attachments with staff and explore with confidence and curiosity. Toddlers splash the water excitedly, and older children work together to build 'rockets' to 'go to the moon'.

All children make good progress. Staff closely monitor children's learning and development and respond swiftly should any gaps emerge. They work closely with parents and refer to other professionals as necessary to ensure that children achieve the best possible outcomes.

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

- Staff support children's communication and language development effectively. When babies babble, staff respond to encourage their interactions. They position themselves at the children's level during play and model language. For example, while toddlers play with toy cars, staff say 'ready, steady' and pause for them to say 'go.' Children enjoy singing, and staff introduce new vocabulary, such as 'nocturnal', to older children. These practices help children develop their vocabulary and become confident communicators.
- Staff use the local community effectively to develop children's physical skills and ignite their awe and wonder of the world. They take children on walks to the local shop and explore the surrounding forest to learn about nature. Children enthusiastically discuss how quickly grey squirrels move and what has been digging up the soil. They develop their balance and coordination by navigating winding pathways and jumping over puddles.
- Staff aim to help children become independent and learn useful skills for the future. For instance, children learn to manage self-care tasks, such as dressing themselves and handwashing. Staff support babies in feeding themselves, and older children are encouraged to set up and tidy away at mealtimes. This

preparation helps children for the next stage in their learning, including school.

- Children show positive attitudes towards learning. They display high levels of concentration in tasks, politeness and kindness towards their friends. However, sometimes, staff's organisation of routines causes some children to wait for prolonged periods of time. This includes lunchtime and whole-group time. This impacts children's behaviour, making them restless and less engaged in learning.
- The leadership and management of the setting are strong. Managers monitor staff's performance and meet with them to discuss their professional development. Staff attend training to support them in their roles. This helps them to provide high-quality learning experiences for children. For example, all staff have recently begun training to further support children's communication and language development to help them consistently deliver high-quality teaching in this area.
- Staff sensitively support children's emotional well-being. Recently, they have helped children to understand the emotions they may feel when starting school or moving on to the next room. Staff read stories to children about colours that represent different feelings. They encourage children to express which colour best describes how they feel. This allows staff to address children's feelings and support them effectively.
- Partnerships with parents are well established. Parents have the utmost praise for the nursery. They say they have secure and trusting relationships with staff. Parents feel well informed about their child's progress and appreciate regular updates, such as babies' care routines. Parents commend the knowledgeable staff. They mention learning helpful techniques, such as using yoga to calm children, from staff.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts the 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:

- review the organisation of the daily routine, particularly lunchtime and group time, to reduce waiting times for children and ensure that they remain consistently engaged in learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2679208
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	10350736
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 5
Total number of places	76
Number of children on roll	123
Name of registered person	Greenwoods Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	2679206
Telephone number	01594 836766
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Greenwoods Nursery re-registered in 2022. The nursery is in the village of Coalway, near Coleford in Gloucestershire. It employs 17 members of childcare staff. Of whom, all staff hold appropriate childcare qualifications from level 3 to level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am to 5.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Michelle Grayling

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 children to learn.
- The inspector spoke to staff at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed interactions between staff and children.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation on teaching together.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation on the suitability of staff.
- The inspector accompanied the staff and children on a walk in the forest.

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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