

Millbrook Activity Club

Millbrook Combined School, Mill End Road, HIGH WYCOMBE, Buckinghamshire,
HP12 4BA



Inspection date	24 February 2015
Previous inspection date	25 February 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff provide good quality learning experiences across the seven areas of learning, indoors and outdoors. Children show eagerness to explore and develop positive attitudes to learning.
- Staff are beginning to develop positive strategies to support children's communication and language, including children who speak English as an additional language. As a result, children show good progress.
- The nursery's leadership team is highly effective in driving improvement. This has a good impact on the learning experiences offered to children.
- Children form positive relationships with staff and their needs are effectively met through an effective key person system.
- Qualified and experienced staff act as mentors to those less qualified and provide excellent role models. This has a positive impact on staff practice and the quality of interaction to support children's learning throughout the nursery.
- There are excellent partnerships with parents and other professionals. Staff are particularly successful in making sure that parents know about their child's developmental progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not maximise opportunities to extend children's imaginative play and creative thinking.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's creative and critical thinking skills by extending opportunities for imaginative play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector completed joint observations with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and foundation leader, and looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Farzana Iqbal

Inspection findings

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

Staff use their good knowledge of how children learn to provide a wide range of learning opportunities. For example, staff make good use of visual aids and sign language to help children progress in their communication and language skills. They repeat language back to children to teach them new words. Children choose many activities themselves, which are skilfully supported by staff. However, staff do not always recognise when to encourage children's creative thinking through imaginative and spontaneous play experiences. Staff introduce mathematical concepts within children's play. For example, when children sing a favourite song staff encourage them to guess how many buns are left when they take one away. Children are learning essential skills to help them prepare for their future learning. All staff work in close partnership with parents and other professionals, such as speech and language therapists, to support and promote each child's learning needs through a shared approach. Planning and assessment arrangements means children's needs are closely checked and shared with staff and parents.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

There are good arrangements to care for children and support their well-being. Children are helped to settle as staff support them by working closely with parents. Staff allow children time to explore the environment at their own pace. Staffing arrangements are consistent so children are familiar with the staff and readily seek them out for comfort when needed. Staff are good role models and play alongside children helping newer and younger children to understand how to share and take turns. This helps children to develop good social skills and learn what behaviour is acceptable. Children have opportunities to be active and engage in physical play outdoors. Staff meet children's individual dietary needs and support good hygiene practices.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The leadership team have good procedures for checking that children receive a rich and challenging range of activities. There are good arrangements for recruiting new staff, maintaining regular supervision and checking staff performance. This promotes a shared commitment for consistent quality of practice. The leadership team observe staff and identify any development points to be tackled through training and support. All staff undertake first-aid and safeguarding training to support children's safety and welfare. Staff and leaders regularly check children's progress and assessment. This means any learning needs are recognised and measures to support children are put in place. Incisive self-evaluation accurately identifies how the nursery can improve even further. For example, leaders liaise with local authority advisors and children's centre professionals.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY462303
Local authority	Buckinghamshire
Inspection number	962592
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	28
Number of children on roll	28
Name of provider	Millbrook Combined School & Nursery
Date of previous inspection	25 February 2014
Telephone number	01494524791

Millbrook Activity Club Nursery +2 registered in 2013. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 12 noon to 3pm during term time only. The activity club receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, with additional unfunded places offered to children aged three and four. Six members of staff, all qualified at level 3, work with children daily.

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