

Inspection of Wise Owls Nursery

Manor Drive, Shurlock Row, Reading, Berkshire RG10 0PX

Inspection date: 28 November 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The setting is in a rural location where children benefit from the surrounding countryside. Outdoor play is an integral part of children's experiences, where they climb, run, balance and explore nature. Children enter the setting with big smiles and separate from parents and carers with ease. They enthusiastically explore the well-planned learning environment. They are happy and settled in this nurturing environment.

Children form secure attachments with staff, who are caring, respectful and act as positive role models. All children are enthusiastic and motivated learners. For example, babies develop their fine motor skills while using twigs to paint autumnal pictures. Toddlers show deep concentration as they use scoops to pick up pom-poms and shout, 'I did it!' when they succeed. Older children enjoy using magnifying glasses to look for minibeasts in the woodland area.

Children develop good physical strength and control of their bodies. They illustrate this as they enthusiastically jump and splash in puddles and show absolute delight. Children display their excellent knowledge as they identify that they can see their reflection in the puddles.

Children listen attentively to stories read by staff in an animated and engaging way. They become familiar with the language and vocabulary of the 'book of the month'. This helps to promote a love of books and reading. Children are very well prepared for their next stage in learning and their move to school, when the time comes.

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

- Following the previous inspection, leaders worked with early years advisers and the staff team to consider the improvements needed. Together, they have established a well-considered curriculum that supports children to progressively learn more and do more.
- There are regular opportunities for staff to access professional development opportunities. However, staff supervision sessions are not used effectively enough to address issues relating to improving staff's practice. For example, not all staff talk to children in a way that challenges their thinking skills. Sometimes, interactions are not skilful enough to stretch children's communication and language skills.
- Parents speak highly of the setting. They comment that their children are eager to come to nursery. Parents appreciate the good communication, for example, through regular newsletters. They state that they are aware of what their children are learning at the setting and how they can extend this at home.

- Staff plan a broad curriculum to build on what children know and can already do. They use children's interests to plan engaging activities. For instance, children show an interest in finding out about different breeds of birds. Children beam with delight as they use binoculars to look closely at birds in the garden. They refer to a reference book to see if they can identify the different birds. This helps children to learn about the natural world and to develop a respect for wildlife.
- Children are encouraged to develop independence with their self-care. For example, young children confidently use the tissue station and mirror to clean their noses. Older children confidently do things for themselves without being asked and ask for help when they need it.
- Children are learning the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle. They enjoy healthy and nutritious meals and engage in outdoor energetic play. Children are beginning to understand the importance of handwashing. For example, children know to wash their hands after playing in the garden. Staff explain to the children how cleaning can help to get rid of germs.
- The well-being of staff is given a high priority in the nursery. For example, managers are trained as mental health first aiders. Staff say they feel valued and enjoy working at the nursery.
- Staff provide a language-rich environment that builds on children's vocabulary and understanding. They introduce new words into children's play. For example, staff discuss the meaning of 'camouflage' during a forest school session. Children then repeat this language back to their friends while hunting for hidden dinosaurs. Children are highly motivated to learn.
- Children are well behaved and show respect to their friends, such as when they take turns and share resources. They demonstrate patience and good manners, for example, as they wait their turn to pour from the jug of milk.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff are knowledgeable about child protection. They understand how to keep children safe and confidently identify possible signs that a child may be at risk of harm. Staff know the procedures they should follow if they have concerns about children. They receive regular training, so that they can keep their knowledge up to date. Staff complete frequent risk assessments of areas accessed by children, to ensure that children remain safe in their care. They understand the whistle-blowing policy and how to report concerns about the conduct of a colleague. The management team follows robust recruitment procedures to ensure that those employed to work with children are suitable to do so.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- continue to build on current arrangements for staff coaching and supervision, to better support all staff to raise the quality of their practice to the highest levels.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2552691
Local authority	Windsor and Maidenhead
Inspection number	10221193
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 4
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	34
Name of registered person	Wise Owls Club Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP905594
Telephone number	01628620013
Date of previous inspection	12 January 2022

Information about this early years setting

Wise Owls Nursery registered in September 2019. It is run by a company called Wise Owls Clubs Limited. The provider also runs a number of day nurseries, pre-schools and after-school clubs. The nursery is located in the small village of Shurlock Row, in the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead in Berkshire. It is open from 7.45am to 6.15pm, all year round. The nursery employs 12 staff, five of whom hold childcare qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery accepts funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sarah Richards

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk together.
- The inspector looked at relevant documents provided, including evidence of the suitability checks carried out on staff.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector observed the staff's interactions with the children and the impact of these on children's learning.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2022