

Scamps of Benson Ltd

10 Churchfield Lane, Benson, WALLINGFORD, Oxfordshire, OX10 6SH



Inspection date

18 February 2015

Previous inspection date

24 March 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Children are happy and confident. Staff have a good understanding of children's individual needs and they have secure emotional attachments. This allows children to feel safe and to thrive.
- Parents get regular, accurate information about their children's progress. Staff have strong partnerships with parents, who are encouraged to share their child's achievements at home.
- Staff work well together and create a homely and welcoming atmosphere.
- The management team have a clear drive to support the on-going improvement of the nursery. They effectively identify areas for improvement. They ensure staff update their skills and knowledge through regular training.
- Staff regularly engage in reflective practices, such as peer mentoring. This supports their individual development. As a result, the quality of teaching is good.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff sometime use questions that require only a single word answer, rather than questions that extend children's language by encouraging a fuller response.
- There are a large variety of toys and resources for children to play with. However, there are few made of natural materials to allow children to explore sensory experiences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop a variety of questioning techniques to encourage children to respond in full sentences rather than single words
- develop the range of natural resources for babies to explore in order to develop their sensory experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at free play and in group times, and staff interactions with them.
- The inspector sampled documents including policies, registers and records of children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took into account their views.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector and manager conducted a joint observation.

Inspector

Natasha Crellin

Inspection findings

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

Staff know the children well and plan activities that reflect their interests. Children develop pre-writing skills as they make marks in the garden. For example, they enjoy colouring in the seats of tricycles and tracing lines of the decking with chalk. Children learn mathematical skills as they peg number cards in order on a washing line. Their problem solving skills are developed as staff remove a card and ask the children to work out which one is missing. Staff observe children's achievements and record them on computerised tablets. This is shared with parents via email, allowing them to have a good understanding of what their child has been doing. Parents share information about learning at home, meaning communication is regularly exchanged and supports children's needs. Progress is closely monitored and gaps in learning quickly addressed. As a result, all children make good progress. Staff develop children's language skills well by modelling good spoken English, although questioning methods are not always fully effective.

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

The nursery is well resourced and children have a good range of toys to choose freely from. However, there is an abundance of man-made materials. Children have few opportunities to explore natural materials to support their sensory development. Children are well prepared when it is time to move to school. Regular visits to the nursery from the local teachers helps children to be familiar with staff before they start. This supports their emotional well-being. Children have daily opportunities to run around and play organised games in the garden. They enjoy exploring the wooded area and making dens. This contributes to living a healthy lifestyle. Staff encourage older children to be independent, for example, dressing themselves. Younger children and babies also develop independence, learning to feed themselves and to access toys that are stored in easy reach. Staff are always readily available to support children where needed, and regularly praise their good choices and achievements. This supports their positive self-esteem.

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

The management team have a good understanding of their responsibility to develop and monitor the educational provision. Children's progress is closely analysed, ensuring any gaps in their knowledge are identified and addressed. Effective systems to monitor staff performance, alongside a commitment to training, result in good teaching. Staff are reflective of their skills and eager to improve. Staff promote children's safety well. Robust safety checks ensure the nursery is safe for children. All staff have been trained in safeguarding and know what to do if they had concerns about the welfare of any child in their care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY261414
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	833191
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	80
Name of provider	Scamps Of Benson Ltd
Date of previous inspection	24 March 2010
Telephone number	01491 835047

Scamps of Benson registered in July 2002. The nursery opens each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm for 51 weeks of the year. They also provide before and after school and holiday care for older children. There are 16 members of staff, 10 of who hold appropriate early years qualifications between level 2 and level 5. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four.

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