Tops Day Nurseries

Isle of Wight College, Dodnor Lane, NEWPORT, Isle of Wight, PO30 5TA



Inspection date20 February 2015
Previous inspection date
21 March 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		Outstanding	1
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

- The quality of care provided for babies and children is outstanding. Staff know each of the children exceptionally well and offer an extremely homely, caring and nurturing environment.
- Senior staff are very well trained and this has a very positive impact on the quality of teaching and the progress children make in their learning and development.
- Leaders and managers have very high expectations for the children and staff. They confidently recognise where improvements can be made and make the necessary changes.
- Children form very positive relationships with the adults who care for them. Staff make learning fun and children enjoy many opportunities for learning both inside and outside.
- Children are very well prepared for starting school. They develop good social skills and are increasingly independent within the daily routine.

It is not yet outstanding because:

Some less experienced staff lack confidence in helping children to learn. They rely on the more experienced staff to show them how to teach children well.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

continue to provide relevant training and support for less experienced staff to ensure the quality of teaching is always good or better.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the promotion of children's learning both inside and outside.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector gained the views of parents present on the day of inspection.
- The inspector assessed staff's understanding of the nursery's policies and procedures, especially those relating to safeguarding children.
- The inspector reviewed the nursery's written documentation, including monitoring records, staff training logs and improvement plans.
- The inspector looked at records of children's development and assessed how well all children make progress in their learning.

Inspector

Jo Caswell HMI

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching within the nursery is good overall. Staff who are qualified to degree level play a key role in supporting children's learning. As a result, the daily routine is organised very well to allow children time to choose their own activity and explore their own ideas. Unplanned activities are also extended well to support children's interests. On the day of inspection, children delighted in playing outside in the large puddles that had formed. They played for long periods of time squeezing paint and bubbles into the puddles and observing the different changes. The vast majority of staff supported this learning extremely well. Pre-school children joined in extremely enthusiastically with a lively song session. The room leader led this session especially well and engaged children's interests and concentration for a long period of time. Occasionally, less experienced staff lack the same level of confidence in teaching children and supporting them to learn. They tend to rely on the higher level qualified staff to extend children's learning. The support for babies' learning and development is good. Staff are extremely sensitive to babies' own choices and encourage them to develop their skills well. A low level slide challenges babies to negotiate the small steps and develop their physical skills well. Babies delight in making marks on paper with chunky chalks and staff support babies' learning well by showing them how to make different marks. High quality teaching ensures that all children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress in their learning.

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

The nursery provides an extremely safe and secure environment. Children are consistently kept safe because staff clearly understand their responsibilities in protecting children. Staff are particularly attentive towards ensuring children's wellbeing. They value each child as an individual and thoroughly respect each child's needs. Exceptional care provision means children develop strong levels of independence, self-confidence and emotional wellbeing. This means children leave the nursery extremely well-prepared for starting school.

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

The management of the nursery is good. Senior staff work extremely hard to improve standards and considerable progress has been made since the last inspection. This has significantly improved the quality of teaching. The leadership team continually reviews the quality of practice and encourages staff to identify where further improvements can be made. Staff training is given high priority and all staff are strongly encouraged and supported to develop their skills by gaining higher level qualifications. This has a very positive impact on the quality of provision. Senior staff regularly monitor the progress children make, including groups of children, and recognise any potential gaps. For example, this analysis has identified that boys need further support with early writing skills, so relevant activities are provided in all rooms. Partnership arrangements with parents, schools, other early years settings and the local children's centre are good.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY402215

Local authority Isle of Wight

Inspection number 1006046

Type of provision Full-time provision

Registration category Childcare - Non-Domestic

Age range of children 0 - 8

Total number of places 68

Number of children on roll 115

Name of provider Tops Day Nursery Limited

Date of previous inspection 17 March 2014

Telephone number 01983550757

Tops Newport registered in 2009. It is one of a chain of 15 nurseries managed by the Tops Day Nurseries group. The nursery operates from purpose built premises on the campus of the Isle of Wight College in Newport. There are fully enclosed outdoor play areas. The nursery is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory part of the Childcare Register. It is open all year round, Monday to Friday, from 6am to 8pm. There are currently 115 children in the early years age group on roll, some of whom speak English as an additional language. The Mini Beasts club provides care for children aged over five years in school holidays. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. A total of 22 staff are employed to work with the children. Two staff are qualified to degree level, and one staff member has a foundation degree.

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