

Fun Box Day Nursery

Totton Christian Centre, 9 Ringwood Road, Southampton, Hampshire, SO40 8DA



Inspection date

8 April 2015

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Requires improvement	3
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Management do not always act quickly when hazards are identified on play equipment to ensure risks to children's safety are kept to a minimum.
- The quality of teaching and learning is not consistently good and does not always match children's learning needs well. Planning of adult-led activities for children lacks clear aims and some staff lack a good understanding of the adult's role during these.
- Management do not focus well on the key priorities for improvement, particularly in gaining and maintaining consistently good practice in regard to an ordered, stimulating environment and a full picture of each child's abilities when they first start at the nursery.
- Monitoring methods do not check that necessary documentation is always completed, particularly the record for children's attendance.

It has the following strengths

- Management has a secure working knowledge of child protection procedures and supports vulnerable families well.
- Partnership with agencies that support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities is strong. Staff work with professionals from these organisations and devise teaching strategies to support the children's development successfully.
- Relationships with parents are good. The provider helps develop parents' skills, particularly for those for whom English is an additional language. Open days and workshops encourage parents to become involved in their children's early education.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- take all reasonable steps to ensure children are not exposed to risks, particularly on outdoor play equipment, with specific regard to the high slide
- ensure a daily record of the names of the children being cared for and their hours of attendance is completed and maintained
- raise the quality of teaching to a consistently good level and help children make good progress by improving learning particularly during adult-led activities by ensuring staff are clear about the learning intentions of such activities and that they understand how to provide good support to children during these.

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

- implement development plans which address identified priorities for improvement, particularly an ordered learning environment and establishing clear starting points for children's learning and development on entry.

To meet the requirements of the Childcare Register the provider must:

- take all necessary measures to minimise any risks to the health or safety of the children in their care (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- keep records of the following and retain them for a period of two years: a daily record of the names of the children looked after on the premises and their hours of attendance (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- take all necessary measures to minimise any risks to the health or safety of the children in their care (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- keep records of the following and retain them for a period of two years: a daily record of the children looked after on the premises and their hours of attendance (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children's play activities indoors and out, looked at the available resources and read relevant documentation.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider/manager about the nursery's leadership and management, including evaluation methods.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the provider/manager.
- This inspection was carried out following the risk assessment process.

Inspector

Lorraine Wardlaw

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement

Children are happily occupied. They are supported appropriately by staff in their chosen play activities. Children enjoy play activities indoors and out, covering the seven areas of learning. However, some of the learning areas have jumbled resources, making it difficult for children to make choices and to learn about taking care of their environment. In addition, there is variable teaching practice so some children do not get much from activities led by adults. This is because some staff have a lack of good knowledge of their role, and what children need to learn next, especially during play outdoors. Children help to make play dough, although teaching strategies do not effectively offer good challenge and involve all children. There are some missed learning opportunities in the area of literacy. Children who are below the expected levels of development receive good support.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children requires improvement

Staff ensure children have regular snacks and meals through the day. They place emphasis on children eating healthy foods first from their midday lunch boxes. Children can rest if they wish in a cosy, comfortable den area. They enjoy selecting their photo on arrival and putting it on their coat peg, which helps them feel part of the club. A recent change to staff has influenced and increased the effectiveness of the key person role, whereby each child has a designated person to take special care of them. This arrangement supports children's emotional well-being by helping them feel secure. However, management and staff do not make sure all equipment is safe for children's use. For example, the slide has sharp corrugated broken plastic at the very top of the high structure, posing an accident risk.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement

The new provider is making staff changes and not all new processes are fully established. She has a clear recruitment and vetting process and a full understanding of ratio and qualification regulations. Although she is aware of the requirements, not all of these are met. However, weaknesses have not had a significant impact on children as no child has come to harm. Regular staff supervision and staff meetings have resulted in a keen staff team willing to improve their practice to ensure better future outcomes for children. Staff training takes place to improve their personal effectiveness, for example to have a better understanding of how to promote children's early mathematical development. The management team are aware of the nursery's strengths and weaknesses. Currently, not all staff help gain a complete picture of children's starting points to pass onto the key person.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY480297
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	1010142
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	20
Name of provider	Fun Box Day Nursery Limited
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07972913102

Fun Box Day Nursery registered in 2014. It is located in the Totton Christian Centre in Totton. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, from 8am to 6pm. The nursery opens all year except for two weeks at Christmas and bank holidays. The provider/manager holds Early Years Professional Status and employs two other staff, one of whom is suitably qualified.

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