

# Poppies Daycare Nursery Ltd



Perham Down Road, Perham Down, Andover, Hampshire, SP11 9FQ

**Inspection date** 27 April 2015  
Previous inspection date 24 January 2012

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- The dedicated and enthusiastic owner successfully inspires her staff team to aim for the highest standards of care and learning for all the children.
- Children thrive in the care of the warm and attentive staff. They form close emotional attachments with their key member of staff, which help them grow in confidence so that they enjoy their day.
- Staff have a thorough understanding of how children learn through play. The quality of teaching is good and all children make good progress in relation to their starting points.
- By working closely with parents and sensitively observing children, staff get to know children very well. This enables them to plan interesting and challenging activities for each child. Staff offer useful advice to parents to support children's learning at home.
- Staff meet the safeguarding requirements to a high standard. They follow good care practices so that children's physical needs are met well. Staff keep children safe by supervising them effectively and helping them to recognise and manage risks as they explore their environment.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make full use of outdoor play to promote early reading and writing skills and to provide opportunities for children to enjoy activities using natural materials, such as sand, water and mud, to support children's overall development.
- Staff do not always organise group activities well. Occasionally, activities are not appropriate for all children, or they have to wait too long so that they lose interest.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enrich children's outdoor play further by adding to the variety of interesting resources, including mark-making materials and written words. Make natural materials, such as sand, water and the 'mud kitchen', available every day, to support children's overall development
- raise the quality of teaching to a consistently very high standard by reviewing the organisation of whole-group activities, to ensure they are enjoyable and appropriate for all the children, and that children are not sitting for too long.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and care routines, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector met with the owner/manager and deputy and discussed safeguarding procedures, systems for evaluating the provision and improvement plans.
- The inspector sampled paperwork, including evidence of staff suitability, policies and procedures, children's records and planning.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and from nursery questionnaires.

### Inspector

Rachel Edwards

## Inspection findings

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

Children have a great deal of fun at the nursery as staff provide a wide variety of enjoyable experiences. Children, including the babies, especially enjoy the freedom to play outside most of the day. Staff continue to develop the gardens, for example, creating a bughouse with the children. They are fascinated to watch eggs developing into caterpillars, they count cocoons and eagerly look forward to the butterflies flying off. They use the computer to find out more. Staff have created exciting resources, such as mud kitchens and a construction yard, but these are not always available. Children become confident, fluent speakers. Staff make especially good use of training to support children's communication skills. They have made cosy spaces where children like to talk. Staff pose interesting questions and introduce new words so that children express their ideas using wonderfully descriptive language, such as a 'boobly-eyed' bear.

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

Staff give a warm and friendly welcome to all children and their families; parents speak highly of the 'homely' atmosphere. Managers carefully arrange staff rotas so that children feel secure with familiar faces looking after them. Many of the parents serve in the army, and staff are highly sensitive to the effect on children when parents are away. Staff have a thorough knowledge of babies' routines. They recognise when they are hungry or tired and attend to their needs promptly. Children visit other playrooms and play outside together. This means that siblings spend time together and children are accustomed to the rooms and staff they will move on to. Staff nurture children's confidence so they cope well with new experiences, such as starting school. Children learn the importance of being healthy. They eagerly tuck into freshly cooked meals and learn to use cutlery from an early age. They run, crawl and climb freely outside, relishing the chance to be physically active every day.

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

All staff receive safeguarding training. Managers pose challenging scenarios so that staff are confident of procedures if they have concerns for a child's welfare. The managers are highly reflective and have successfully inspired the same ethos throughout the staff team. Managers are experienced childcare practitioners and use their knowledge effectively to monitor staff performance. The owner employs an Early Years Professional to evaluate practice, coach and mentor the staff. Staff share their knowledge and skills well. Parents speak very highly of the nursery and recognise the good progress their children make. They appreciate the regular contact with their child's key person, who keeps them well informed of their child's day.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY431980
<b>Local authority</b>	Wiltshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	823741
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	50
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	54
<b>Name of provider</b>	Poppies Daycare Nursery Ltd
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	24 January 2012
<b>Telephone number</b>	01980 844008

Poppies Daycare Nursery Limited, operating from Perham Down, near Andover on Salisbury Plain, registered in 2011. The setting is an independently owned nursery and is one of two nurseries in the garrison town of Tidworth, near Andover. The nursery has three playrooms and two enclosed outside play areas. The nursery serves the local and surrounding areas. It opens each weekday, from 7.30am until 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years. The nursery currently employs 11 members of staff to work with the children; all hold relevant qualifications in early years. One member of staff has Early Years Professional Status. There are three additional staff who cook and ensure that the nursery is clean.

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