

# Tiddlywinks Day Nursery

108 High Road, Trimley St. Mary, Felixstowe, Suffolk, IP11 0SU



## Inspection date

22 April 2015

## Previous inspection date

14 January 2015

| The quality and standards of the early years provision                                 | This inspection:     | Requires improvement | 3 |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|---|
|  | Previous inspection: | Inadequate           | 4 |
| 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 <b>does not meet legal requirements for early years settings</b>           |                      |                      |   |

## Summary of key findings for parents

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

- Teaching is variable, so not all children, particularly those who are older or more able, make good progress.
- Systems to monitor staff performance have yet to be embedded.
- Staff do not always share information effectively with other settings that children attend, or when children are moving on to another provision or school.

### It has the following strengths

- The nursery has appointed a new manager who is a confident and effective leader. This means that weaknesses identified at the last inspection are being successfully tackled and quality is improving.
- Children feel safe and secure in the nursery because there is a successful and stable key person system. This promotes their positive behaviour and their personal, social and emotional development.
- Staff are confident about steps to take in the case of a child protection concern. This means that they are able to protect children well.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that staff use their assessments of children to identify clear next steps to challenge all children, particularly those who are older and more able.
- improve the quality and consistency of staff's questioning skills by closer monitoring of staff interactions with children to ensure that children of all abilities are consistently engaged in activities on offer

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

- continue to develop the regular two-way flow of information between providers, where children attend more than one setting

## Inspection activities

- Two inspectors carried out this inspection
- Both inspectors spoke to parents to gather their views on the quality of the nursery.
- Both inspectors carried out a joint observation with the manager of the nursery.
- Inspectors spoke to staff and children and sampled documents including staff records and safeguarding policies and procedures.

### Inspector

Naomi Brown / Sian Extence

## Inspection findings

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

Overall, children make satisfactory progress during their time in the nursery. Staff are learning to use new planning systems to plan activities that meet most children's learning needs. Activities cover all areas of learning and generally engage children's interests. Children are encouraged to be independent learners and take responsibility for things to prepare them for school. However, the quality of teaching is variable. Staff do not consistently adapt activities or use good questioning skills to challenge children who are older or more able. This means that these children do not make their best possible progress. For example, staff chat to children during a painting activity but do not encourage all children to think and talk about what they are painting. Children enjoy a wide range of activities indoors and outdoors. They have plenty of opportunities to develop their physical skills on large play equipment. They particularly enjoy digging up letter and number cards in the sandpit and telling adults about letters and sounds that they recognise.

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

Children feel safe and secure in the nursery and are cared for by a stable and supportive staff team. Staff work across all rooms so when children move from the baby room to the main house they already know the people who will look after them. Children regularly go to staff for comfort and reassurance and know their key person. Staff understand signs and symptoms that would cause them to be concerned about child protection. They confidently describe steps to take to refer any concerns. Improvements made to risk assessment and fire evacuation procedures promote children's safety and wellbeing. The nursery is welcoming and set out with children's needs in mind. In the baby room low level storage means that babies easily choose from a wide range of stimulating resources. There are plenty of resources available for older children. However, staff do not always make the best use of these resources, during free play sessions to keep all children motivated and engaged. Staff manage children's behaviour appropriately. Staff are positive role models to children and children know what is expected of them.

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

The manager understands her role and responsibilities. As a result she has carried out accurate and realistic evaluation of the quality of the setting. This has enabled her to make significant improvements since the last inspection. The manager understands her role well and supports her staff team effectively, encouraging staff to attend training. For example staff have changed their planning following training from the local authority. Recruitment systems are secure. The manager is implementing systems to monitor staff performance. However, monitoring of teaching practice across the whole nursery is not yet effective. Overall, relationships with parents are effective. Parents are well informed about their children's development and their time at nursery. However, staff do not always work in partnership with other settings to share information about children. This means

that they may not have the most accurate picture of all children's individual needs.

## Setting details

|                                    |                                    |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>     | 251804                             |
| <b>Local authority</b>             | Suffolk                            |
| <b>Inspection number</b>           | 1012503                            |
| <b>Type of provision</b>           | Full-time provision                |
| <b>Registration category</b>       | Childcare - Non-Domestic           |
| <b>Age range of children</b>       | 0 - 8                              |
| <b>Total number of places</b>      | 18                                 |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>  | 42                                 |
| <b>Name of provider</b>            | Tiddlywinks Nursery Felixstowe Ltd |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b> | 14 January 2015                    |
| <b>Telephone number</b>            | 01394 274130                       |

Tiddlywinks Day Nursery was registered in 1992 and is on the Early Years Register and on both the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. It occupies the ground floor of a private house in Trimley St Mary, near Felixstowe, Suffolk. The nursery operates from three rooms, two of which are on the ground floor of the house, and a baby room in a building in the garden. There are two separate, enclosed garden areas. The nursery serves the local community. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm, 51 weeks of the year. There are currently 42 children on roll, 37 of these are within the early years range. The nursery provides funded early education for two, three and four-year-old children. The nursery offers care to older children before school from 8am until 8.45am, and after school from 3.10pm until 6pm. There are seven members of staff who work directly with the children, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications to at least level 3.

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