

North Dorset Children's Centre Nursery

Wincombe Lane, Shaftesbury, North Dorset, SP7 8PZ



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

12 June 2015

30 March 2011

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		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

- Children who learn English as an additional language make good progress in their learning. This is because staff provide effective support and opportunities for children to develop and use their home language in their play and learning.
- Children develop exceptionally strong emotional bonds and trusting relationships with staff throughout the nursery, and this highly promotes their self-esteem and confidence. As a result, children are extremely curious, active learners, meaning that they are very motivated, confident and keen to learn.
- Children show that they feel extremely safe and secure and arrangements for safeguarding the children are robust. All staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities in keeping children safe from harm. They have a very good understanding of the procedures to follow if they have a safeguarding concern. They have attended training and share updated knowledge and awareness at staff meetings.
- Staff support children's learning well by adapting activities to suit their individual needs and different stages of development throughout the stimulating nursery.
- There is an exceptional feeling of warmth and care throughout the nursery. Staff talk enthusiastically and accurately about the individual care and learning needs of their key children. They work very closely and positively with parents and other professionals to ensure they support individual needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff miss opportunities during some activities for children to develop their early writing skills and learn about the letters that make up their names.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use all opportunities during activities to promote children's early writing skills and help them understand the letters that make up their names.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children in all rooms indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector discussed the provision with staff, management and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sought the views of parents from feedback forms and discussion.
- The inspector sampled a range of paperwork including suitability documents, risk assessments, policies, procedures and children's files.

Inspector

Shirelle Norris

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 is good and sometimes outstanding. Staff know children well and provide stimulating and challenging activities, using their good knowledge and understanding of the Early years Foundation Stage. The nursery environment is engaging and motivating, planned to promote children's interests. Observations and assessments are successful and help staff to plan activities that challenge all children's learning. Older children use pens and paper to practise writing and making marks, although staff do not always extend this further. Children sit together at group time. They welcome their friends into the nursery, which helps to promote children's personal, social and emotional development. Children become confident to count in front of others. They learn to listen, to discover early mathematics and be respectful of each other. This helps them to develop good foundations in preparation for the next stage of their learning and school.

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

Staff promote children's emotional and physical well-being extremely well. They allow children to choose when they would like to play outside. The connecting outdoor areas for each age group support those children who learn better outdoors extremely well. Babies thoroughly enjoy crawling and exploring outside in a different environment. Older children have very good physical skills and they balance on equipment and run around playing games. Staff follow excellent systems to ensure they are aware of children's health or dietary needs. Staff are highly effective in helping children to understand dangers around the nursery. They encourage them to take care when using equipment and to be mindful of others. All children, including the younger ones, learn to share and take turns, and play exceptionally well together. Children have a thorough understanding of what staff expect of them. Children behave extremely well because of the established structure and routine.

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

Management structures are effective and communication within the team is very good. Comprehensive staff supervision arrangements and ongoing monitoring of children's learning needs help to identify areas where further staff training is required. This means training influences the good progress that children make. The manager has a strong drive to improve practice and seeks feedback to gain the views of parents, staff and children in helping to identify changes. Management and staff work very well with parents to keep them informed of their child's progress, which ensures they have a good understanding of their child's development. As a result, parents continue to support children's learning at home. There are excellent connections with other professionals and other early years settings, which strongly benefits children's continuity of care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY336390
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	987902
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	87
Name of provider	Dorset County Council
Date of previous inspection	30 March 2011
Telephone number	01747 850288

North Dorset Children's Centre Nursery registered in 2007 to serve the North Dorset local area. It operates from purpose-built premises within the children's centre in Shaftesbury, Dorset. The setting opens from 8am to 6pm, all year round. The nursery is in receipt of funding for two, three and four-year-olds. The provision employs 12 staff. Two members of staff are qualified to level 5, eight have level 3 qualifications and two staff are currently training.

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