

# Tarka Tots Nursery

Sure Start Childrens Centre, Victoria Park, Bideford, North Devon, EX39 2QS



## Inspection date

13 August 2015

## Previous inspection date

18 January 2011

<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 quality of teaching is good because staff know how children learn best and provide interesting activities that engage them. This means that all children make good progress from their starting points and are motivated to learn.
- The nursery has an effective key-person system, enabling staff to form strong attachments with their key children and support their well-being.
- Staff understand how to deal with any child protection concerns and ensure that children's well-being is safeguarded and receives top priority.
- The leadership team are committed to delivering good-quality care and learning experiences. They regularly check staff's assessments of children's learning to ensure children make good progress.
- Staff are well qualified and committed to developing their practice through further training. As a result, children benefit from staff who have up-to-date knowledge and deliver interesting learning experiences.
- Partnerships with parents and other settings children attend are good. Staff share information to support children's learning and development.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always effectively organise and manage activities, such as, soft play. This does not fully support children's choices, problem-solving skills and cooperation.
- Young children do not always have time to explore their activities, for example, to draw more pictures, because staff are too quick to pack things away before children have made a choice about if they want to continue.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of group activities so that they extend children's choices, thinking and problem-solving skills, and cooperation with others
- provide young children with more time to make decisions about their activities, so they can decide when they have finished and when they need to continue.

## Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children indoors and outside.
- The inspector spoke with staff and the manager.
- The inspector sampled documentation including self-evaluation, policies, staff suitability checks and children's learning records.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to some parents to gain their views on the day of inspection.

## Inspector

Katherine Lamb

## Inspection findings

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

Teaching is effective. All children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, and who learn English as an additional language make good progress towards their early learning goals. Staff are successfully closing any gaps in learning by working effectively with children who enter the nursery with a lower level of ability. Staff give high priority to promoting children's communication and language skills. For example, in the baby room, staff understand the importance of talking to babies to promote their early language and they do this continuously. Staff provide ample opportunities to hold discussions with older children. As a result, staff are fully aware of children's individual learning needs and plan skilfully for their next steps in development across all areas of learning. Babies enjoy exploring musical instruments and older children investigate soil and plants in the garden. Children enjoy large group activities; they listen to stories about topics of interest and sing songs.

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

Staff provide a welcoming and friendly environment for children. They know their children well and use this knowledge to support them both developmentally and emotionally. Children's behaviour is good and they play cooperatively together. They share their toys and are happy to take turns using equipment. Children enjoy taking part in physical activities inside and outdoors, such as using walkers and push-along toys to support their physical development. Staff praise children's efforts, promoting children's confidence and self-esteem. Staff foster children's growing independence as they help set the table for lunch and wash their hands. Children enjoy healthy food, which staff encourage them to serve themselves. Staff support children well so that they are ready for the next stage in their learning, such as school. They have well-established links with local schools and support children and their families well through this move.

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

The manager and staff have a clear understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. There is a sharp drive for the continual development of the nursery, and staff and parents contribute to self-evaluation. The manager regularly reviews the progress of groups of children in the nursery to ensure they make good progress and any gaps are closing. She supports staff well through the supervision and appraisal system, using observations of staff practice to identify any training needs. Staff benefit from regular training to improve their knowledge and skills. For example, recent training on questioning means they now use shorter sentences with children, which helps with their communication and understanding. Parents speak very highly of the staff and the nursery.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY309995
<b>Local authority</b>	Devon
<b>Inspection number</b>	847481
<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>	45
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	57
<b>Name of provider</b>	Tarka Tots Ltd
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	18 January 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	01237471831

Tarka Tots Nursery registered in 2005. It operates from purpose-built premises within Bideford Bay Children's Centre in Victoria Park, close to the centre of Bideford in North Devon. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm all year round. The nursery provides funded early education for children aged two, three and four years of age. There are 11 staff, including the manager, who work with the children, all of whom have or are working towards early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The manager is working towards Early Years Teacher Status. The nursery also employs two ancillary staff.

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