

Footsteps Childcare Centre



The Old Sunday School, Well Street, Tywardreath, Par, Cornwall, PL24 2QH

Inspection date	22 September 2015
Previous inspection date	2 March 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff in the baby room create a nurturing, stimulating environment. They are very attentive and meet the individual needs of babies well. Consequently, babies are content and happy.
- Observation, assessment and planning procedures are consistent throughout the setting. These show that all children reach their individual targets, and make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff interact well with children to provide effective challenge during activities. The educational programme and good range of equipment help them to promote children's interest and development.
- The provider, manager and staff reflect well on their practice and take effective steps to make ongoing improvements. Staff attend relevant training to update their childcare knowledge and awareness.
- Staff work closely with local school teachers to promote a consistent approach. This helps them to prepare children well for their move to school and future learning. Children develop key skills in their language, physical, social and emotional development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Systems to communicate with all settings that share the care of the children are not robust to promote more continuity in children's care and learning.
- Leaders do not rigorously monitor children's use of the outdoor play area and how well staff motivate and inspire children to use the space. This means that children do not frequently choose to play outside during some of the sessions.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- establish effective links with all settings that children attend to robustly promote continuity of care and learning for children
- review and monitor children's use of the outdoor play area and find ways to encourage and inspire their play and learning outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff working in the baby room and pre-school room.
- The inspector held discussions with the provider, manager and staff.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the provider.
- The inspector sampled children's development records and took account of the setting's self-evaluation form and feedback from parents.
- The inspector checked the required certificates and specific documentation.

Inspector

Julie Wright

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Robust procedures are in place to check that persons are suitable to work with children. The provider monitors staff performance through effective ongoing support and supervision. The staff development programme helps staff to increase their skills, to the benefit of children. For example, following training, staff improved their positive behaviour management strategies. This has given children a better understanding of taking turns. Staff have introduced signing with children to extend their communication and language development. Safeguarding is effective. The provider, manager and staff have a good awareness of the procedures to protect children's welfare. The provider invests in external consultation to support improvement in professional practice. They are currently looking at ways to involve parents more successfully in children's learning. Management monitors children's progress well. They identify any areas of underachievement and address these promptly with staff.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff promote children's speech and language development well throughout the activities. They encourage babies to repeat words and sounds to build their vocabulary. Older children learn to listen, concentrate and begin to link letters to sounds. Staff ensure all children experience different materials, such as sand, water and paint. Babies particularly enjoy the dough, which they press, prod and squeeze for a considerable time. Staff provide older children with items to help them tell a popular story and children enjoy using the cotton wool, soil and clods of grass. Staff support children well during a ball game to promote children's coordination and social skills. Children learn about colour, size, shape and number in play. Staff inform parents about activities, which helps to involve them in children's learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff promote children's social and emotional development well across the setting. Babies have secure attachments to their key staff. They show interest in the toys and activities and smile with pleasure at their achievements. Babies learn to take turns as they use the steps and come down the slide, which supports their physical development. Older children follow instructions and show a good sense of responsibility. For instance, they help to tidy up and understand the countdown time before the next activity. Staff provide information for parents about nutrition to promote healthy eating.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy their activities and benefit from the consistent routines, which prepare them for their next stage in learning. They feel safe, happy and well cared for in the setting.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY355990
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	828653
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	44
Name of provider	Kelly Louise Russell
Date of previous inspection	2 March 2011
Telephone number	01726 816 911

Footsteps Childcare Centre registered in 2007 and is a privately owned day care provision. It operates from a converted Sunday School building in the village of Tywardreath, near Par, in Cornwall. The setting is in receipt of early education funding to provide free places for children aged two, three and four years. It is open each weekday, from 7.30am until 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. By arrangement, staff take children to and from Tywardreath school. There are nine staff employed to work with the children, eight of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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