

First Class Day Nursery School



Ferndown First School, Mountbatten Drive, Ferndown, Dorset, BH22 9FB

Inspection date	26 October 2015
Previous inspection date	2 September 2014

	This inspection:	Good	2
The quality and standards of the early years provision	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- Leaders have made sure that ongoing self-evaluation and regular tracking of children's progress have helped to raise the quality of the provision greatly since the previous inspection.
- The quality of teaching is good and children make steady, ongoing progress in their learning and development. Staff regularly assess and monitor children's progress and provide a wide range of interesting learning experiences that build on children's skills.
- Staff provide a stimulating environment, which enables children to initiate their own play and ideas. Children are highly motivated, and eager to explore and learn.
- A well-established key-person system helps promote children's welfare and emotional development well. It helps children form secure attachments and successfully prepares them as they move within the nursery, and for when they go to school.
- Leaders make sure that staff help children to learn about the wider world and to respect others.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Management supports the staff team's professional development well but sometimes they do not focus on precise aspects of teaching closely to enhance it.
- Staff work closely with parents to help them meet children's needs but do not always involve them fully by guiding them on how best they can extend their children's learning and development at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give a precise focus for aspects of individual staff's professional development to extend their skills further and support continual improvements within the nursery
- extend children's learning by providing guidance and information to parents and carers about ways of further supporting their children's learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and how they interacted with children during play and learning activities, and viewed the play areas and resources.
- The inspector undertook a number of joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation relating to children's development, the suitability of staff, training records and safeguarding procedures.
- The inspector had discussions with the owner, manager and staff. She spoke with children and parents to gain their views of the nursery.
- The inspector discussed the nursery's self-evaluation and how the action plan is used to bring about continuous improvement. She discussed how staff work with other early years providers, other professionals and parents.

Inspector

Jacqueline Munden

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Leaders ensure the implementation of requirements and the safe and smooth running of the nursery well. All those involved have a clear understanding of their responsibilities to protect children. The manager and staff team have addressed the actions and recommendation that were made at the last inspection well. For example, the manager now carefully monitors children's progress, which has helped her to identify aspects of the educational programme that needed improving, such as the teaching of mathematics. She has helped staff to develop their skills in this area and they now provide many activities that promote it well. This has a positive effect on outcomes for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff give children's communication and language development high priority. This helps all children, including those with communication difficulties, to become confident talkers. Many staff interact very effectively with children as they play and encourage them to express their ideas and to explore. For example, staff encouraged children to experiment as they mixed icing sugar and water to make icing. They were captivated as they added different amounts of water and found it changed the consistency. They learnt new words to describe the icing as either 'runny' or 'thick'. Staff provide lots of interesting activities that help children to develop good coordination and control of their bodies. For example, the babies enjoyed pushing cars through paint and seeing the tyre tracks they made.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff have a good all-round knowledge of each child and their families and work closely with other professionals to help them meet children's needs. Staff are sensitive to children's needs and help them to settle quickly. Children respond well to the calm and consistent reminders to share and take turns, and learn to use effective strategies to help them. For example, children patiently watch the sand run through a sand timer knowing that when it finishes it will be their turn. This helps children to cooperate as they play and build friendships. Children develop high levels of responsibility through the daily routines. For example, they help prepare foods at snack time. Staff teach children to use tools correctly, such as knives as they spread butter on bread, so they remain safe.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in all areas of their learning and development in relation to their starting points. They gain a wide range of important skills needed for their future learning; for example, many begin to write the letters of their names.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY431335
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	1029626
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	59
Name of provider	1st Class Day Nursery Limited
Date of previous inspection	2 September 2014
Telephone number	07900604587

First Class Day Nursery School registered in 2002 and moved to the current premises in 2008. The nursery operates from purpose-built mobile classrooms in the grounds of Ferndown First School in Ferndown, Dorset. The nursery's full day care provision opens each weekday from 8am to 6pm all year, except for one week over Christmas and all public holidays. Children may attend for a variety of sessions or all day. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. Out of school provision operates before and after school from 8am until 8.45am and from 3pm until 6pm. A holiday playscheme operates from 8am until 6pm weekdays during all school holidays, except for one week over Christmas and all public holidays. There are 11 staff members employed to work directly with the children, including the director and the manager. One member of staff holds Early Years Professional Status and eight of the remaining 10 staff hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3.

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