

Tiddlers Pre-School & Chuckles



Saltford C of E School, Claverton Road, Saltford, B&NE Somerset, BS31 3DW

Inspection date	2 November 2015
Previous inspection date	18 November 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- The quality of teaching is good. Staff provide children with a wide range of challenging and interesting activities, which help stimulate and motivate them to learn. Children make good progress from their initial starting points.
- Staff have high expectations of behaviour and offer children clear boundaries and routines. Children behave well, share, show tolerance and have respectful and responsible attitudes.
- Staff have developed very effective partnership working with parents. Staff keep parents well informed about their children's progress and how this can be supported at home. Parents speak highly of the pre-school.
- The manager uses self-evaluation well and has identified the strengths and weaknesses of the pre-school. She has put together a detailed action plan to continue making improvements, which has fully involved the parents and children in this process.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always allow children enough uninterrupted time to engage in the activities of their choosing and become deeply involved in their own play.
- Staff do not always give children enough time to think, work things out and make their own conclusions during play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- allow children more uninterrupted time to engage in the activities of their choosing and learn by developing their own ideas
- extend opportunities for children to think through and solve problems during play, and ensure all staff give them the time they need to respond to questions.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching throughout the pre-school and outdoor area.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including attendance records, staff suitability checks, the self-assessment information, children's observation, assessment and planning records, and documentation linked to managing children's progress.
- The inspector held discussions with the provider and pre-school manager and spoke with children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection and from written feedback.

Inspector

Julie Swann

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff attend child protection training and know what they need to do if they have any safeguarding concerns. Rigorous induction, recruitment and vetting procedures help ensure the well-qualified staff are suitable and understand their roles. The manager has a good overview of the educational programmes. She uses information from tracking and assessments to identify groups of children that are making less than typical progress, and gives them extra support. She monitors the quality of teaching, for instance, by regularly observing staff interaction and practice, identifying strengths and areas for improvement. Staff attend regular training, and share ideas to ensure children's outcomes are good. Staff have strong links with other professionals, including the host school and other settings children attend, to support children's learning needs consistently.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding of how children learn and develop. They effectively observe and monitor children's progress, and plan activities to meet children's interests and learning needs. Staff promote children's communication and language skills effectively. For example, they repeat words that children attempt to say, such as 'prehistoric'. Children develop their listening skills; they engage in singing and rhymes and listen attentively to staff as they read stories. Children who are learning English as an additional language benefit from staff's clear focus on language development. At inspection, children enjoyed inventing a car racing game, negotiating and working together to build a track with start and finish lines. They independently fetched writing materials to draw, make lists and write their names, showing their understanding that writing has a purpose.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's personal, social and emotional development is good. They form secure and trusting relationships with staff and are confident learners. Children develop independence in their self-care routines and help to serve their meals. They gain an understanding of the need for physical exercise; they have regular opportunities to be active and enjoy noticing changes in the natural environment, such as the changing colour of leaves. Children learn about life cycles. For example, they examine insects collected from the outdoor area, and take care of the pre-school animals. Staff are always close by and offer children gentle reminders about safety, supporting them to take small risks. Children demonstrate a strong understanding of their local community and other cultures. For example, they celebrate and learn about different festivals from around the world.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and gain the skills needed for their next stage of learning, such as school. For example, children are eager, confident and motivated to learn.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY313807
Local authority	Bath & NE Somerset
Inspection number	827219
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	3 - 8
Total number of places	100
Number of children on roll	157
Name of provider	Tiddlers Day Nursery Ltd
Date of previous inspection	18 November 2011
Telephone number	01225 872185

Tiddlers Pre-School & Chuckles registered in 2005 and operates from the grounds of Saltford Primary School in Bristol. The setting opens Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm, all year around. Children attend for a variety of sessions, including before and after school care. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. There are 10 members of childcare staff; nine hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 3 or above.

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