

Totstop Day Nursery

5 Harrowden Road, Brackmills Industrial Estate, Northampton, Northamptonshire,
NN4 7EB



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

5 January 2016

1 December 2010

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

- The manager and provider have a clear understanding of their legal responsibilities and are committed to the ongoing development of the setting. The manager values the views of both staff and parents, in order to effectively evaluate practice. She works closely with her local adviser to outline clear action plans to lead improvement.
- All children make good progress in their learning and development. This includes those for whom English is an additional language and those who may require additional support. Children's communication and language skills are given high priority by staff. They support children's confidence, communication and engagement by enriching activities, routines and songs with signs and actions.
- Staff are caring and attentive to what children say and do. They give children individual attention which helps to ensure that each child feels valued and special. This helps them to build strong bonds and secure emotional attachments, which supports children's well-being and self-confidence very effectively.
- Staff are strongly committed to working with parents and carers, to promote continuity of care and learning for the children. They support a two-way flow of information through regular newsletters, play sessions and daily discussion. Additionally, a secure online system enables the sharing of detailed information about each child's learning and progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Opportunities for staff to reflect upon their own teaching practices and those of others are not yet embedded, to share good practice and develop staff's professional skills.
- Staff in the toddler room do not carefully plan the set-up of their activities to help to develop children's creativity and stimulate their imaginative small-world play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the existing good systems for the monitoring of staff performance to strengthen and improve the consistency of teaching practice
- enhance the planned set-up of resources in the toddler room to support children's freely chosen play, in order to encourage children to further develop their creativity and imagination.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities with both age groups, indoors and outside, and conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and provider of the provision. She spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection when appropriate.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment and planning documentation, the setting's risk assessment and safety records.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working within the setting, the provider's evidence of self-evaluation and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and by reading a number of comments on parents' questionnaires.

Inspector

Rachel Howell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff are vigilant about children's safety and they are fully aware of their responsibilities in reporting concerns. The manager ensures that she keeps abreast of changes to legislation and cascades this to the staff team. Effective systems for recruiting new staff, regular supervisions, and observations of staff performance are in place. All staff are qualified and their professional development is encouraged.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, the quality of teaching is good. Planning reflects staff's knowledge of individual children's learning needs and values parents input from home. Children's early literacy skills are progressing very well. Early phonic sound games and songs with actions are embedded into pre-school practice. Children proudly recognise key letters of their name on packaging during a play dough making activity. They enjoy taking their turn in group games and link letter sounds to their friend's names correctly. Younger children and babies are developing a suitable appreciation for books. They enjoy looking at books under the canopy out in the garden and listening to a story with staff in the book area indoors. Children's mathematical development is well supported. They recognise shapes that they are forming with their play dough. They count blocks as they stack them in to towers and they explore size and recognise numbers when using a tape measure. Children begin to learn about technology as they program remote-controlled toys. They press buttons and enjoy seeing the cause and effect sequence unfold.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The atmosphere throughout the nursery is particularly calm and children thrive in the relaxed and happy environment. Staff are patient and provide very responsive additional support when children are struggling to understand expectations. All children are learning to take turns, share toys and play with other children, including those whose individual needs require particularly sensitive intervention and additional support. Children's independence is promoted very well. They enjoy having the responsibility of helping themselves to food at mealtimes, pouring their own drinks and clearing away their things when they have finished. Even older babies confidently toddle over and select their cups. They excitedly recognise their picture on their place mat and sit down for snack with their friends. Children have good opportunities to be physically active. Younger and older children alike are successfully challenged on age-appropriate equipment and activities set out in their age group's designated garden. Additionally, children enjoy walks along the adjacent footpath to explore the environment and local community. They relish watching horses and their riders pass. Staff and children mimic the horse's actions as they gallop along the path back to the nursery.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well supported to reach their potential, including disabled children and those with special educational needs and disabilities. All children are making good progress in their development and in readiness for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	220158
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	865855
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	65
Number of children on roll	53
Name of provider	Nurtury (Northants) Ltd.
Date of previous inspection	1 December 2010
Telephone number	01604 674600

Totstop Day Nursery was registered in 2000. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff and two cooks. Eight of the childcare staff hold early years qualifications at level 2 or 3 and one at level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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