

Scallywags Day Nursery

42 Cold Overton Road, OAKHAM, Rutland, LE15 6NT



Inspection date 15 March 2016
Previous inspection date 18 June 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 staff demonstrate a strong commitment for continuing to develop all aspects of the provision. Self-evaluation is effectively used to identify strengths and areas for ongoing improvement.
- Children enjoy their time at the nursery and are motivated to learn. They have fun and participate in a good range of challenging activities. Older children display confidence and concentration, persisting at their chosen activity with enthusiasm.
- Children are treated with kindness and respect in this nurturing nursery. They confidently seek comfort and reassurance from staff as required, demonstrating that they feel safe and emotionally secure.
- Staff plan a good range of visits around the local community and support children to develop their understanding of others cultures and traditions. Children visit the local fire station and purchase produce from the market. They watch African dancers and taste foods from other countries.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Performance management arrangements to supervise and support the less experienced staff, are not always sharply focused on raising the good standards of teaching and helping to identify further training opportunities.
- Occasionally, the information gathered from parents when their children first start attending and during their time at the nursery is inconsistent.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen performance management arrangements to ensure less experienced staff are thoroughly supported to achieve consistently high-quality teaching practice
- enhance the consistency of the information gathered from parents when their children first attend, and during their time at the nursery, in order to more precisely and promptly plan for children's initial and ongoing learning needs.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and owners of the nursery. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Ann Austen

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Secure recruitment and induction procedures ensure staff, students and volunteers are suitable to work with children. The manager and staff maintain a safe environment, ensuring that risks to children are minimised on outings. All staff attend child protection training and demonstrate a clear understanding of how to keep children safe. Most of the staff are experienced and well qualified. This is reflected in the good quality of care and teaching provided. The manager continues to develop performance management to provide a greater insight into individual staff skills and preferences for training. Effective partnerships with other agencies and professionals are well established to meet children's needs and improve the consistency of care and education. Parents comment positively about the care and learning provided for their children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff regularly observe children as they play, assessing their progress and identifying the next steps in their learning. Younger children, including disabled children, children with special educational needs and those who speak English as an additional language, are introduced to new words as they play. They repeat phrases, such as, 'Ready, steady go' as they roll cars down pipes. Older children confidently use words, such as 'extinct' when talking about dinosaurs and describe the pictures they have drawn. From a young age children are encouraged to develop an interest in books. Younger children enjoy the bright illustrations in books and eagerly feel the different textured pictures. Older children listen well, repeat familiar phrases and confidently ask and answer questions about the story. Younger children develop their hand-to-eye coordination skills as they handle and explore a range of different mediums. They bang the drum to hear its sound, immerse their hands in paint and taste frozen yoghurt.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Settling-in arrangements are flexible and meet children's individual needs. Children quickly develop close bonds with their key person and other members of staff. They choose freely from the good range of resources and activities provided and are encouraged to do things for themselves. Children are supported by the staff team to manage their feelings and behaviour, and to share and respect one another. They enjoy healthy food options and thoroughly enjoy being physically active in the fresh air. Younger children manoeuvre wheeled toys with growing precision and older children proudly demonstrate their balancing skills as they walk along wooden planks.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including disabled children, children with special educational needs and those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress in relation to their starting points. Staff prepare children with the skills they need to move confidently through the nursery and, eventually, on to school. Children demonstrate a positive attitude towards their learning. Older children develop good personal and social skills. They are confident communicators.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY342919
Local authority	Rutland
Inspection number	857264
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	93
Number of children on roll	97
Name of provider	Nanny Tots Limited
Date of previous inspection	18 June 2010
Telephone number	01572 723810

Scallywags Day Nursery was registered in 2006. The nursery employs 21 members of childcare staff. Of these, 17 hold appropriate early years qualifications ranging from level 2 to level 6. This includes one member of staff with Qualified Teacher Status. 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. The nursery supports disabled children, children with special educational needs and those who speak English as an additional language.

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