

YMCA Townhill Nursery and Pre School



Townhill Infant School, Benhams Road, Southampton, Hampshire, SO18 2FG

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| Inspection date | 12 April 2016 |
| Previous inspection date | 8 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

- Staff know children well and are attentive to their individual needs, supporting children's emotional well-being effectively.
- Children play in a stimulating and well-resourced environment, which helps to promote their all-round development. They show developing independence skills.
- Children make good progress. Staff monitor children's individual learning well, making sure that all children, including disabled children and those who have special educational needs, receive the support they require.
- Staff have effective partnerships with parents and other agencies, which alongside the well-established two-way exchange of information, helps to provide consistency for children's learning.
- Staff make very good use of the outdoor play environment to promote children's physical development. Staff are deployed effectively and supervise children well.
- The management and staff have a clear commitment to ongoing development of the provision. They review their practice to help improve learning experiences for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, group activities are not organised as well as possible to take account of the differing ages and abilities, and some younger children are less engaged.
- Staff do not make the most of opportunities to support children's understanding of shape, size and measure.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review group activities to make sure that these are well suited to all children who take part
- make full use of the opportunities to further extend children's learning with regards to their mathematical development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and staff's interaction, indoors and outdoors, and the deployment of staff.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including a sample of children's developmental records, planning and staff suitability records.
- The inspector talked with the provider, staff and some parents.
- The inspector looked at and discussed the systems used to review and evaluate the provision.

Inspector

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Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of safeguarding issues and what to do if they have any concerns. Comprehensive recruitment and vetting procedures are followed to check the suitability of staff. The management monitors staff practice and supports their professional development. For example, in-house training events help staff to continually update their knowledge and skills. The new manager has worked with the staff to review the provision. For instance, the layout of the play space was changed so that children had a larger area to enjoy books. Parents receive regular updates about their children's progress and are encouraged to share their children's achievements at home. The well-qualified staff team works well with the parents to promote continuity for children's learning and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy a good range of interesting play activities, indoors and outdoors. Positive interaction from the staff skilfully motivates children to play and learn. For example, children had fun exploring dough, showing good control as they pressed and pushed it into shapes. They carefully rolled the dough between their fingers, telling others, 'it's a wiggly worm'. Staff model language and introduce new words, such as 'sticky' and 'soft', helping to develop children's language skills. The children energetically join in action songs and rhymes outside with their friends.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are sensitive and supportive of children, which helps to give children a strong sense of security. Staff adapt the play areas to ensure that all children are able to move round freely and safely. Children show developing independence in managing their own personal care routines. They are learning to share with others during their play, such as using the timer to wait their turn to use the computer. The staff follow agreed strategies to provide a consistent approach to promoting good behaviour. For instance, clear guidance is given to children about what is and is not acceptable behaviour. Staff liaise closely with parents and other professionals so children get the support required to help them to learn to manage their own behaviour.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy their time at the setting and are confident and motivated to learn. They decide where and how they want to play. For example, children who prefer to play outside have great fun using the outdoor resources and equipment imaginatively in their pretend play. Children are developing the essential skills they need for the future, which helps to prepare them for their next steps in their learning, and their move on to school.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY330639 |
| Local authority | Southampton |
| Inspection number | 827329 |
| 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 | 2 - 4 |
| Total number of places | 30 |
| Number of children on roll | 57 |
| Name of provider | YMCA Fairthorne Group |
| Date of previous inspection | 8 November 2011 |
| Telephone number | 023 80476 283 |

YMCA Townhill Nursery and Pre-school is managed by the YMCA Fairthorne group. It is one of a number of children's enterprises in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. It registered in 2006. It operates from one room, which is divided into four open-plan areas, in a purpose-built annexe on the site of Townhill Park Infant and Junior School in Southampton. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm for 51 weeks of the year. Eight members of staff work with the children; of these, seven have early years qualifications to at least level 2. The manager and deputy hold appropriate qualifications at level 5.

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