

# Ipstones Tiny Tots

Millennium Play Pavilion, Church Lane, Ipstones, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire,  
ST10 2LD



## Inspection date

Previous inspection date

10 May 2016

17 October 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

- Children are happy and nurtured in a caring environment. They are keen to explore and participate in a broad range of activities. Children are motivated to join in, are enthusiastic learners and they make good progress in their development.
- Children feel safe and receive good quality care. They build secure bonds with staff who listen to their views and are sensitive towards their needs.
- Staff are excellent role models. They promote children's independence and praise their achievements, encouraging them to develop their self-esteem and confidence.
- Staff have developed a very positive partnership with parents who value the opportunity to share their children's development.
- A strong relationship with the local school helps to prepare children for the transition on to school and the next stages of their development.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Performance management and training is not always sharply focused on developing the specific needs of key groups of children.
- Although some staff use excellent teaching strategies to develop children's critical-thinking skills, other staff do not make the most of opportunities to teach these skills as well.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus performance management and training more precisely, in order to raise the quality of teaching of all staff, linked to the specific needs of key groups of children
- extend opportunities for staff to share best practice and ensure all staff make the most of opportunities to promote children's development of critical-thinking skills.

### Inspection activities

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

### Inspector

Isobel Ford

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The management team ensures that staff are suitable to work with children and have implemented robust policies and procedures. Staff are deployed effectively and children benefit from high ratios of staff in all areas of the nursery. Risk assessments are thorough and staff carry out daily checks of the setting to maintain a safe and supportive environment. Staff are committed to ongoing improvements. They regularly reflect on practice and implement new strategies to improve the quality of provision. The management team implements self-evaluation and improvement plans effectively through engagement with staff, parents, committee members and advisors. Recently reviewed planning and assessment systems have sharpened the focus on raising standards of learning, by extending the level of challenge in children's learning.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and their detailed knowledge of the early years curriculum supports learning and development at all ages. Language is developed through a range of activities, such as babies making animal noises with puppets, while older children describe the soft, slimy and sticky texture of space sand. Staff effectively observe and assess children, in order to identify their next steps in learning and provide learning opportunities that reflect their interests. They have high expectations of all children and they motivate them to learn in the fun and interactive environment. Consequently, children develop their counting skills in a variety of ways, such as building towers, adding ingredients to a space recipe and counting the eyes on aliens. Staff successfully engage parents in their children's learning. Parents comment positively about the care and learning provided for their children.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's emotional well-being is paramount and staff nurture the development of good manners and respect. They focus on children's positive actions and promote good behaviour, such as sharing, turn taking and listening. Children enjoy a choice of healthy snacks and take part in a range of physical exercise in the enhanced, all-weather outdoor area. They particularly love to perform on the stage and access a range of safe climbing apparatus. Staff remind children about safety and hygiene so they develop a good awareness of keeping themselves safe and well.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children demonstrate a positive attitude towards their learning and they make good progress in relation to their starting points. They sing phonics songs to develop their early language skills and learn to count, recognise numbers, shapes and colours. Children enjoy the daily routines and take pride in their achievements. They demonstrate independence when playing and learn key skills, in readiness for their move on to school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	218443
<b>Local authority</b>	Staffordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	854500
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 9
<b>Total number of places</b>	40
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	81
<b>Name of provider</b>	Ipstones Tiny Tots Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	17 October 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	01538 266000

Ipstones Tiny Tots was registered in 1975. The nursery employs 17 members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold an appropriate early years qualification; 15 members of staff at level 3 and two members of staff at level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year and offers flexible hourly care and before- and after-school care during term time. 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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