

Dolphins Day Nursery

73 Chesswood Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 2AB



Inspection date

6 April 2016

Previous inspection date

18 March 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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

- Managers effectively gain and act on the views of parents to help with the evaluation of the nursery. Relationships with parents are strong and encourage meaningful communication about the well-being and development of children.
- Staff are clear and consistent about how they expect children to behave, and children behave very well. Staff are kind and patient, and teach children how to share and consider each other's needs.
- Staff support children's language development very well. For example, they have lots of conversations based on children's interests and ask interesting questions to challenge children's thinking. Children make good progress from their starting points.
- The staff know each child well, and observe and assess each child's development closely, to plan effectively to move children on to their next stages of learning.
- Staff create a welcoming, friendly and stimulating environment. Children form very close relationships with staff and show that they feel safe, secure and ready to learn.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The recently restructured system for monitoring and tracking groups of children is not fully embedded to track their progress even more precisely.
- The monitoring of staff practice has improved, but is not yet fully effective in raising the quality of teaching to a consistently outstanding level.

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 good systems now in place for monitoring groups of children's progress, to raise outcomes to an outstanding level
- make even better use of monitoring staff practice, to improve teaching to a consistently higher level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practices and the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff, children and parents.
- The inspector read some of the setting's documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector sampled children's development information and records.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Ben Parsons

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager has continually improved the quality of the provision since the last inspection. She works closely with staff to accurately evaluate the setting and make ongoing improvements to benefit children. For example, they recently improved the learning environment, adding new cosy areas for children to further develop their play. The manager supports staff well to keep their skills up to date, for example, by encouraging them to undertake further childcare qualifications and to access relevant training. Safeguarding is effective. All staff attend safeguarding training and have a good understanding of how to deal with any child protection concerns.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The staff plan a wide variety of challenging experiences, to ensure the children have fun and are engaged in their learning. For example, children happily concentrate as they use tweezers to fill small containers with oats. Staff make the most of spontaneous opportunities to support children's individual learning. For example, they encourage children to count and order numbers as they explore props for their favourite songs. Staff listen carefully to what children have to say. For instance, they show an interest in their home lives and value their opinions. Staff ensure there are plenty of opportunities for children to develop the physical skills needed for later writing.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are very caring and attentive to children's needs. They settle them in well and form strong bonds with them. For example, children clearly enjoy cuddles with staff and are keen to include them in their play. Children are enthusiastic about attending and parents appreciate the nurturing care that staff provide for their children. Children receive warm praise and encouragement throughout their play and take pride in their achievements. Children develop good social skills and work well together. For example, they acted out a group time for their friends and copied what staff usually do. Children are independent and eat healthily. For instance, they wash their hands and help prepare fruit for pudding.

Outcomes for children are good

All children enjoy learning. They count with confidence and recognise numbers during their play. They develop good early writing skills; for example, as they draw and write their names. Children are very confident communicators and happily express their views and thoughts. They confidently take on roles in their play and show good imagination, such as when they have pretend conversations with their families on the phone. Children have good motivation and effectively gain the skills needed for their next stages in learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	113462
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1028169
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	54
Number of children on roll	29
Name of provider	Nicole Helena Mendes
Date of previous inspection	18 March 2013
Telephone number	01903 537755

Dolphins Day Nursery registered in 1997. It operates in Worthing, West Sussex. The nursery is open from Monday to Friday, between 7.30am and 6pm, all year round. The provider employs seven staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. Of these, one member of staff holds Early Years Professional Status. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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