

Choo Choo's Day Nursery and Preschool



Rear of 11/12, St Andrews Road, Taunton, Somerset, TA2 7BW

Inspection date 18 August 2016
Previous inspection date 9 May 2014

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 management team uses good systems of support and guidance to help staff provide good-quality teaching and continue to develop their professional skills and knowledge.
- Staff make regular observations and identify children's next stages of learning. They use the information well to plan activities that motivate children to learn. Children make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff support children's health and well-being effectively. They help children develop good practices for a safe and healthy lifestyle. For example, staff encourage them to drink plenty of water, particularly when playing outside and in hot weather.
- Children are confident, enjoy taking part in activities, make independent choices and sustain group games completing them to their own satisfaction.
- Children's behaviour is good and relationships are strong. There are good partnerships with parents and outside agencies. Staff share appropriate information to provide consistent learning and meet children's individual care needs successfully.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make full use of planned activities to help children contribute their own ideas and creativity.
- Staff miss some opportunities to help children count and recognise shapes.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- help children to express their own ideas in adult-led activities and extend their creativity further
- use all opportunities to help children develop their mathematical skills further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with staff, parents, carers and children present at the inspection and took account of the nursery's self-evaluation.
- The inspector held a meeting with the owner/manager and carried out a joint observation with the supervisor.
- The inspector checked safeguarding information and the safety of the premises.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies and procedures, children's development records and planning.

Inspector

Elaine Douglas

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team makes good use of self-evaluation to include staff and parents in reviewing and improving the provision. For example, the management team and staff are currently implementing a new online system to help them monitor children's development more efficiently. Staff have regular training opportunities and ensure they have the skills needed to meet the complex medical needs of children with disability. Safeguarding is effective. Staff know what to do if a child is at risk of harm and the signs to be aware of. They carry out good risk assessments and take effective action. For example, they open windows and use portable equipment to keep rooms cool in hot weather.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff engage children in discussions, encourage their communication skills and increase their vocabulary. They help children recall past events. Staff help younger children understand the world by learning about cause and effect. For example, they explain, 'Look, you made the water come out when you pushed that in there,' and children then try it again. Staff help children play games together and cooperate as a team. For example, they play hide and seek, taking it in turns to count and seek. Staff support children well in thinking about problems and testing their ideas through trial and error. For example, staff ask children why using moulds with dry sand will not work and what they need to do. Children suggest adding water, and then find out if it works.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff help children to be independent and manage age-appropriate tasks for themselves. For example, they help young children realise they have their shoes on the wrong feet and change them around. Staff support children well in managing their behaviour and help older children resolve any conflicts and share. They support children effectively to understand their expectations. For example, children who put their hand up get to make choices first so others quickly do the same. Staff organise the nursery well, enabling children to select from the good range of resources and choose where they prefer to learn.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good skills for their next stages of learning and school. For example, older children enjoy writing letters and experiment with joining them together. They are extremely pleased with themselves when they make a word. Children gain good independence. For example, they serve themselves lunch and put on their shoes, and older children take care of their personal needs. Children are confident and willing to have a go at new challenges.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY457194
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1067435
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 - 5
Total number of places	47
Number of children on roll	49
Name of registered person	RAEF Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP908073
Date of previous inspection	9 May 2014
Telephone number	01823252264

Choo Choo Day Nursery re-registered in 2013. It is one of two privately owned nurseries and is situated in North Taunton, Somerset. The nursery opens for 51 weeks a year from 8am until 5.30pm on Monday to Friday. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are six members of staff; of these, one holds early years teacher status and one holds an early years qualification at level 6, three members of staff hold a qualification at level 3 and one has a qualification at level 2.

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