

Abbey School Nursery

Abbey School, Hampton Court, Fore Street, St. Marychurch, Torquay, Devon, TQ1 4PR



Inspection date	22 September 2016
Previous inspection date	26 November 2013

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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff meet children's care needs exceptionally well, especially the youngest children. They support children to develop very secure attachments with key persons and other children. Children are extremely confident and independent.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff encourage parents to share their hobbies or occupations with the children, helping them to value diversity and differences.
- The management team uses self-evaluation well to identify areas to develop and improve. For example, to provide parents with additional information about children's development to enable them to support learning at home.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary. They play extremely well together, sharing and taking turns. Staff are excellent role models, and children show a very deep respect for each other and the environment.
- The management team monitors children's progress well to identify gaps in learning. An effective key person system and accurate planning help staff to meet children's individual learning needs well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff sometimes miss opportunities for children to count, and to learn more about shapes, numerals and mathematical language.
- Staff do not always ensure that children can participate in and enjoy group activities without distractions.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to count, and to learn more about shapes, numerals and mathematical language
- ensure children can participate in and enjoy group activities more without distractions.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed and spoke to staff and children during the day.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including staff suitability checks, children's records and some policies.
- The inspector spoke to parents about their views on the provision.
- The inspector held an interview with the manager.

Inspector

Joanne Steward

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team monitors staff performance and their professional development well. Staff have successfully used training, for example, to help children reflect on their learning and be proud of their achievements. Safeguarding is effective. The management team ensures that staff attend training to stay up to date with legislation and safeguarding requirements. There are safe procedures to recruit staff, and to check their suitability and understanding of their roles and responsibilities. The management team and staff are clear of the procedures to take should they have any safeguarding concerns. The management team supports staff well to provide a stimulating curriculum that meets children's needs and interests effectively.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy an interesting range of activities that capture their interests. For example, toddlers enjoy music sessions with good staff support, and sing their favourite songs using instruments, developing their awareness of sounds and rhythm. Younger children enjoy being creative and explore collage materials with good support from staff. Staff encourage children's communication and language well, particularly with babies. They identify children's gestures and immediately act on them, engaging children in detailed conversations. Staff make frequent observations of children to assess their achievements and next steps. They use this information well to plan challenging activities that support children's good progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children, especially the youngest ones, build very strong relationships with their key person and relish the individual attention from staff. Staff prioritise children's safety. For example, toddlers attend swimming lessons with staff, where they gain high levels of confidence in the water and learn how to keep safe. Staff attend life-saving training to ensure children's safety at all times. Staff very skilfully support children when they move on to school, helping them to feel emotionally prepared to progress on to the next stage of their learning. Children develop a very strong understanding of the world and of the positive impact they have on the environment. For example, they learn how to reduce waste using a compost bin to create rich fertiliser to improve plants and wildlife habitats.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. Toddlers enjoy making marks in sand to support their early writing skills, and all children develop their imaginations through well-known stories and using puppets. Children develop a good awareness of their differences and similarities through frequent discussions and looking at photographs with each other and staff. Younger children are very confident and secure.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY234164
Local authority	Torbay
Inspection number	1061666
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 3
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	29
Name of registered person	Schools In Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP520740
Date of previous inspection	26 November 2013
Telephone number	01803327868

Abbey School Nursery registered in 2003. The nursery operates from the independent Abbey School in Torquay, Devon. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged three and four years. The nursery is open five days a week from 9am to 3pm, term time only. There are nine staff members employed to work directly with the children. Of these, one is a qualified teacher, two hold a qualification at level 6, four have a qualification at level 3 and one has a level 2 qualification.

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