Sunny Day Nursery & Play Club



Middle Farm Barn, Middle Farm Way, Poundbury, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 3WA

Inspection date	8 December 2016
Previous inspection date	22 August 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 asses	sment	Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and v	welfare	Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The provider uses effective systems of self-evaluation. They carry out accurate audits of the quality of teaching and the use of resources in each room. They know their strengths and what needs to change. They use the information well to provide feedback to staff and continue to improve outcomes for children.
- The provider is implementing a new assessment system to more closely monitor children's development and promptly identify where children need additional support. Staff make important observations and now plan for children's individual learning. Children make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff work closely with parents and outside agencies to be consistent in supporting children with special educational needs. They provide an inclusive environment where children gain a positive awareness of people's differences.
- Staff successfully help children to make as much progress as they can in their personal, social and emotional development. Staff provide good support for them to manage their feelings and think of others. Children behave well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some older children, particularly boys, are not as challenged or motivated as they could be to take part in activities guided by adults.
- Staff miss some opportunities to help older children recognise risks and think of how they can keep themselves safe.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop ways to motivate older boys to take part in more adult-led activities, to prepare them further for school
- help older children to recognise risks for themselves and identify ways to minimise them.

Inspection activities

- The inspectors observed activities and the quality of teaching in all the rooms and the covered veranda.
- The inspectors spoke with staff, parents and children, and took account of the nursery's self-evaluations.
- The inspectors held meetings with one of the providers and the deputy manager, and the lead inspector carried out a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspectors checked safeguarding information and the safety of the premises.
- The inspectors sampled documentation including policies, procedures, children's development records and planning.

Inspector

Elaine Douglas

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff carry out thorough risk assessments to help keep children safe including checking the outdoor areas before children use them. All staff receive training to know how to protect children and what to do if a child is at risk of harm. The provider has made recent changes to senior staff and supports them well in understanding their responsibilities. Staff have good opportunities to reflect on their practice and meet as a team to be consistent in implementing new procedures. Management supports staff well in continuing their professional development. For example, staff have undertaken workshops to raise their awareness of supporting children learning to speak English as an additional language.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff guide children efficiently as they play and help them to think about how to solve problems. For example, older children consider how to stop the dough from being too sticky by using more flour. Toddlers realise that putting sand in a water wheel stops it working and remove it. Staff plan the environment well to enable children to make choices and lead their play. For example, older children make plans, practising their early writing skills to keep a record. Staff help children of all ages with their mathematical skills. For example, they help older babies count how many ducks they have and toddlers count the number of big scoops of sand it takes to fill a container. Older children use numbers in their games and recognise written numerals.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children's physical and emotional needs well. They provide sensitive support to help children settle in and move to their next room. Staff help children to become independent in managing tasks for themselves. For example, older children set their place for their snack and pour their own drinks. Staff encourage babies to crawl and provide them with spoons so that they can learn to feed themselves. Children work together well. For example, several children move around the table to enable another to reach in the bowl and help them blend the flour and water. Children gain a good understanding of healthy practices. They have plenty of fresh water to drink and enjoy a wide range of nutritious, cooked meals and snacks.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are acquiring the skills and aptitudes they require to prepare them well for school. Older children manage their personal needs well and become independent learners. Children are confident communicators. For example, babies babble with excitement and older children engage fully in conversations. Children are creative, play imaginatively and explore their environment to find out how they can use the resources.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY216520

Local authority Dorset

Inspection number 1061628

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 0 - 8

Total number of places 173

Number of children on roll 251

Name of registered person Sunny Day Nurseries Limited

Registered person unique

reference number

RP905811

Date of previous inspection 22 August 2013

Telephone number 0345 88 88 123

Sunny Day Nursery & Play Club is one of two privately owned nurseries. It opened at its current premises in 2002. It operates from the village of Poundbury, near to the town of Dorchester, in Dorset. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 7am to 6pm, all year round, excluding bank holidays. Children aged eight to 11 years attend before and after school and during school holidays. There are 25 members of staff who work with the children. Of these, one holds an early years qualification at level 6 and two have qualifications at level 4. There are 16 members of staff with an early years qualification at level 3 and one member of staff with a qualification at level 2. There are five apprentices. Childcare staff are supported by a cook, cleaner and administrative staff.

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