

Brambley Tots Day Nursery

Ivel House, Mill Lane, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, SG18 8AZ



Inspection date

6 June 2017

Previous inspection date

8 January 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

- The management team's strong leadership encourages the well-qualified staff team to drive forward improvements. Staff feel valued and motivated by the support and professional development opportunities they receive. Staff carry out their roles with passion and commitment.
- Staff's support and care for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities is superb. Highly effective strategies engage parents and external agencies in supporting children's sustained progress.
- Staff know children exceedingly well. A robust key-person system fully supports children's emotional well-being and helps them to develop secure and trusting relationships.
- Children's mathematical development is good. Staff use many opportunities to skilfully teach children. For example, they count the legs on spiders that children make with dough and help older children to recognise and write numbers.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- When children first start at the nursery, staff do not always gather enough information from parents about their child's capabilities, to ensure the initial planning for their individual learning is of the highest quality.
- The managers do not yet observe staff's practice in order to help them develop their practice to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gather more information from parents when children first start, to further understand children's starting points and capabilities
- enhance the good systems already in place for the performance management of staff, in order to raise their practice to even higher levels.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider, manager and deputy manager and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views. She also spoke with staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation including the nursery safeguarding procedures, complaints log, attendance records and children's observation and assessment records. She also reviewed the nursery's evaluation documents and discussed other methods of reflective practice.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff have a good knowledge and understanding of safeguarding procedures and this underpins everything they do. Staff consistently implement a wide range of policies and procedures to promote children's safety and well-being. Rigorous recruitment procedures help to ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children. The managers hold regular meetings with staff to discuss the needs of their key children and to identify further professional development opportunities. Staff are supported to undertake further qualifications and talk confidently of how this deepens their understanding of how children learn and develop.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide many opportunities for children to choose their own play and learning. Babies enjoy sensory experiences as they explore pasta mixed with water using their hands and feet. Staff use clear descriptive language with the babies to help them hear and practise new words. Staff provide toddlers with many opportunities for imaginative play. They enjoy pretending to cook meals which they share with attentive staff. Older children carefully make models with dough and staff link their play to the topics they are currently looking at, such as insects. Children's progress is regularly tracked. The managers and staff provide targeted support for individuals and groups of children. This helps to close gaps in learning and promotes children's good progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are very warmly welcomed when they arrive at the nursery. Staff make time each day to offer their key children one-to-one attention, for example, by sharing books with them. Babies are superbly cared for by dedicated staff. Their individual routines are prioritised and babies demonstrate how happy and secure they feel. The outside learning environment is a wonderful place for children to have fun. Children enjoy exploring what happens the mud on rainy days and ask staff lots of questions, such as why there are so many snails in the rain. The newly developed garden for the younger children provides them with many opportunities to run, climb and explore. These activities help children to develop a positive attitude to healthy lifestyles.

Outcomes for children are good

Children engage well in activities and show a positive attitude towards learning. They understand how to use technological equipment, such as scanning through numbers on a disc player to find the song they want. Many children are able to write their own names and copy words that staff write for them. Their communication and language development is good and they articulate their own thoughts and ideas. Children are developing valuable skills that they need for their next stage of learning and at school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY418473
Local authority	Central Bedfordshire
Inspection number	1065610
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	58
Number of children on roll	86
Name of registered person	DTA Childcare Ltd T/A Brambley Tots Day Nursery
Registered person unique reference number	RP901938
Date of previous inspection	8 January 2013
Telephone number	01767313636

Brambley Tots Nursery registered in 2010 and employs 22 members of childcare staff. Of these, 19 hold an appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round from 7am until 6pm, except bank holidays and the week between Christmas and New Year.

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