

Tops Day Nursery Christchurch

Priory Hall, Whitehall, Christchurch, Dorset, BH23 1DE



Inspection date	18 July 2017
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Children respond positively to staff and settle easily to play. Staff are friendly and reassuring, and support children well to develop a good sense of emotional well-being.
- Staff plan a good range of exciting activities that link closely to children's interests and support their involvement well. Children enjoy their play and make good progress.
- Staff form friendly relationships with parents, who comment positively about the nursery. Staff liaise with parents and share ideas to help support their child's specific care and learning needs, including those learning English as an additional language.
- The management team meets regularly with staff to evaluate their practice. For example, the nursery opened recently and staff have already identified better ways of rearranging play areas to improve children's access and participation in activities.
- Staff are good role models and actively support children to be kind and learn about differences in their lives and those of others. Children know the nursery's golden rules, such as to use their listening ears and walking feet, and talk about these with staff.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the most of outside play to extend and challenge children's learning further, and help them learn how print has meaning to support their early literacy skills more effectively.
- Staff occasionally miss opportunities to encourage children to recognise and match numbers to quantity and support their early mathematical awareness further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of the outdoor play areas to extend and challenge children's learning further, to support their early literacy skills more effectively
- provide more opportunities for children to recognise and match numbers to quantity in activities, to further develop their mathematical awareness.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's interactions indoors and outdoors, and viewed their learning journals through the nursery's online assessment system.
- The inspector viewed and discussed documentation with the manager, such as operational policies, procedures and required records, including those for suitability of staff.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager, and discussed children's learning and development.
- The inspector took into account the written and spoken views of parents.
- The inspector discussed self-evaluation with the manager.

Inspector

Mary Daniel

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff demonstrate a clear awareness of their safeguarding responsibilities and procedures to follow, to help protect children's welfare. The management team understands suitable recruitment processes and continues to assess and monitor staff suitability. They provide ongoing support and training to help staff develop their practice and continue making further improvements. For instance, staff have learned more about promoting children's privacy and dignity when managing their personal care routines. The manager ensures that staff continually monitor children's achievements and effectively identify ways to close any gaps in their learning. Staff share children's progress well with parents and other settings involved in children's care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff securely understand how to motivate children's different ways of learning. They use this knowledge well to encourage children's language skills, their enjoyment of rhymes and songs, and understanding of early technology. For example, younger children show great fascination when they see the colourful pictures on an interactive touch screen. They show excitement on hearing a favourite tune play. Older children show interest in photographs of dinosaurs and learn new vocabulary, such as 'extinct', 'ribs' and 'skull'. They use magnifying boxes to look at a beetle they find outside and talk about the colour of the beetle and how it moves. Staff support children's creativity and exploration of colour and texture effectively. For instance, older children become absorbed mixing water, sand, herbs and twigs together and say, 'We are making power soup and spaghetti'. Younger children enjoy exploring the grass and sand play areas outside.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff actively promote children's good health and physical well-being. Children develop positive attitudes to exercise and gain good strength and coordination skills. For example, younger children attempt to crawl through a pop-up tunnel and smile as they see staff looking through the other end, playing peek-a-boo with them. Older children eagerly climb on the swinging tyre, and lift and carry logs and branches in their games. Children develop a good understanding of keeping healthy. For example, they know milk comes from cows, that cheese is made from milk, and these are good for their bodies.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident communicators and use language very well to describe their ideas. For instance, they put their hands into a sand and water mixture and say, 'My hands are yucky and squidgy'. They talk about a favourite cartoon character, and tell staff how 'he wears glasses, has big ears, a hat and brown fur'. Children develop very good independence skills and are involved in decisions about the nursery. For example, children help to prepare snacks and cut up fruit carefully. They talk to staff about toys and activities they would like, their favourite snacks and where to go for any outings.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY546997
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	1108733
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	74
Number of children on roll	24
Name of registered person	Tops Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901328
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01202 551553

Tops Day Nursery Christchurch registered in 2017. The nursery operates in Christchurch, Dorset and is one of a chain of privately owned nurseries. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 7am until 7pm, all year round. The nursery receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. There are four members of staff employed. The manager and one member staff hold an early years qualification at level 6, one member of staff holds a qualification at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 2.

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