

Choo Choo's Day Nursery and Preschool



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

Inspection date	18 July 2017
Previous inspection date	18 August 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff are exceptionally skilled at teaching children. They very successfully support them to gain an excellent understanding and explain their ideas clearly. Staff plan activities meticulously so that they challenge all ages of children, rapidly developing children's learning and helping them to discover new things for themselves.
- Staff meet children's individual needs superbly. Children who learn English as an additional language have special books that help them to communicate and engage very successfully with others. Staff provide excellent care for children with specific medical needs, working very well with other professionals. The nursery is highly inclusive. Managers ensure staff are well trained for this aspect.
- All children make extremely rapid progress. The older children are very well prepared to go to school. Those who learn English as an additional language make exceptional progress. Younger children join in the highly exciting activities and thoroughly enjoy learning alongside the older ones. Children in the breakfast club accurately comment that 'everyone is fair and gets on well together'.
- The director and the manager include all staff very well and have the highest expectations for practice. They fully involve all parents and children to help identify ways to continually improve the nursery. They provide high-quality training and meticulously monitor the progress of groups of children each month, so ensuring excellent learning and progress in all areas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop the outdoor area, and increase the proportion that is shaded, to provide increased opportunities for children to develop the fullest range of physical skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching and learning indoors and outdoors, and did a joint observation of this with the director and the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took their views into account.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children.
- The inspector visited the breakfast club at the school, and spoke to parents, staff and children when it was convenient.
- The inspector had discussions with the director and the manager, looked at samples of policies and procedures, particularly those relating to safeguarding, and checks on staff suitability.

Inspector

Janet Dinsmore

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The director, manager and strong, cohesive staff team strive to continually make excellent improvements. Recent developments in the baby room provide extremely good opportunities for exploration, and children have benefited greatly from helping to plant a sensory garden and vegetables. There are slightly fewer opportunities for children to be physically challenged even further when outside. The manager's rigorous and frequent individual feedback to staff ensures that the quality of observation, assessment and teaching continually improves. Staff support children who learn English as an additional language and their families exceptionally well to extend them and learn new vocabulary. Safeguarding is effective. Managers and staff are extremely vigilant in observing any signs and know exactly whom to report to if they have any concerns.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff provide excellent opportunities for children to learn. For example, they provide first-aid dummies and encourage children to apply bandages and plasters, refer to information books and discuss the effect of injuries. This extends children's learning exceptionally well, where they learn to control their movements, understand the value of books, and extend and engage in meaningful conversations. Children continually suggest new ideas during play. For example, when using the first-aid dummies, they decided a baby was being born. Staff use children's ideas highly successfully in creative and imaginative role play. For example, issuing tickets for an imaginary bus led to children explaining clearly how they have visited the seaside and built sandcastles, describing the shapes they made. Staff support parents very well to extend children's learning at home, for example, by providing books and puppets to tell stories and explain about new babies.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are highly inquisitive and curious. For example, when they discovered caterpillars on the Brussels sprouts plants, they excitedly investigated how they moved using magnifiers. Children learn to be highly sensitive and caring, for example, when treating imaginary injuries and when watering the sunflowers, explaining that they grow taller. Staff are highly skilled at managing the children in mixed-age groups so that the youngest contribute and older children learn to be tolerant. Children socialise very well. For example, they investigate and compare the different fruit juice flavours they make.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children communicate highly effectively, quickly learning to talk accurately in sentences. They rapidly gain confidence because all their contributions are highly valued. Older children gain excellent skills in preparation for school. For example, they recognise hexagons, distinguish shades of colour, begin to write letter shapes and frequently use books to find information. Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and those eligible for additional funding make excellent progress. Gaps in progress between groups of children close rapidly. Younger children very confidently engage in targeted activities, where they learn to handle balls and explore with their senses.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY457194
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1080013
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 - 11
Total number of places	47
Number of children on roll	78
Name of registered person	RAEF Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP908073
Date of previous inspection	18 August 2016
Telephone number	01823252264

Choo Choo's Day Nursery and Preschool 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 6pm on Monday to Friday. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are nine members of staff, of whom one holds early years teacher status, one holds an early years qualification at level 6, one has a qualification at level 5, one is qualified at level 4, three are qualified at level 3, and one has a qualification at level 2. The nursery also employs an administrator.

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