Tortoise Nursery



7 Wrekin Professional Centre, Holyhead Road, Wellington, TELFORD, Shropshire, TF1 2EH

Inspection date Previous inspection date		1 August 2017 29 April 2014	
The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspecti	ion: Good	2
	Previous inspe	ection: Good	2
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

- Staff work closely with external agencies and other early years settings. This helps to support children's individual needs and provide continuity in their care and education.
- The manager is effective in ensuring that any identified gaps in children's achievements are closing. Accurate and precise tracking is in place to make sure that the progress made by individual and different groups of children is consistently reviewed.
- Information gathered from parents is included in children's baseline assessments. This helps staff to be aware of what children can and cannot do when they first start and to plan activities based on their individual needs.
- The manager has a clear understanding of the strengths of the nursery and accurately identifies areas to develop as part of the nursery's self-evaluation.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents are given many opportunities to be involved in their children's learning and information is shared on a regular basis. This helps to meet children's needs.
- Staff help children to gain a greater understanding of their community. Children enjoy regular visits to the local care home and nearby places of interest.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, some planned activities are not organised in the most effective way to fully involve younger children and build on their learning.
- Staff are not always given enough opportunity to evaluate their own practice in order to help raise their teaching skills 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:

- focus more precisely on planning activities for younger children in order to build on their learning even further
- provide even more opportunities for staff to reflect on their own practice in order to help raise teaching skills to the highest level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the outdoor and indoor environment and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the nursery manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times. She looked at relevant documentation and checked the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Lesley Bott

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are clear about their roles and responsibilities to protect children and the procedures to follow if they have a concern. Robust recruitment and vetting procedures are implemented. The manager carries out thorough checks to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. Staff meet regularly with the manager to discuss their practice and identify any training needs. They continue to reflect on ways to improve outcomes for children, such as developing the outdoor area. Risk assessments are thorough and staff use them effectively to minimise hazards. Children learn to take risks and play in a safe environment.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding of how children learn. Observations are accurate and clearly indicate the next stage in children's learning. Staff take into account children's current interests and plan in the moment. For example, children enjoy physical play outdoors with bubble wrap, stretching and jumping on it to create different sounds. This activity is later brought indoors where the children explore using paint and different rollers and brushes on the bubble wrap. Children are challenged by staff to extend the activity even further as moulding gel is added to the paint to mix and create new colours. Children have extensive opportunities to learn through play and exploration. They regularly use their senses as they experiment with a wide range of materials, such as foam, sand, water, mud and dough. Staff skilfully interact with the children. They join in with the children's play to challenge and motivate their learning and extend their communication and language skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The nursery provides a very warm and welcoming environment. Children are emotionally well supported by caring and attentive staff who help them to form strong attachments. Children benefit from effective settling in arrangements, including a robust key-person system. They work closely with parents to gather and share information about each child. Children benefit from regular outdoor physical exercise. They gain confidence as they join in with group games and develop their coordination skills. Children learn about healthy lifestyles as they eat healthy, varied and nutritious food. Staff remind children about germs and the importance of washing hands before meals and after messy play. Staff model respectful behaviour and teach children to be kind and caring. Children behave well and understand about turn taking and showing tolerance and respect for others.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. They gain skills that prepare them well for the move to school. Children and babies are keen to learn and be physically active. Their communication skills are good and they can express themselves successfully to staff and their friends. Children develop their literacy skills well. They enjoy listening to stories and looking at books as they learn about the sounds that letters make.

Setting details

Unique reference number	208279
Local authority	Telford & Wrekin
Inspection number	1101791
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 - 5
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	37
Name of registered person	Joy Annice Francis
Registered person unique reference number	RP909545
Date of previous inspection	29 April 2014
Telephone number	01952 254040

Tortoise Nursery registered in 2000. The nursery is open from 7.30am to 6pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and one week at Christmas. The nursery employs seven members of staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and three hold level 5. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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