

The Town Nursery

24 London Road, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, OX7 5AX



Inspection date

3 January 2018

Previous inspection date

5 March 2015

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		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff provide a stimulating, interesting and exciting environment that motivates children to learn. Children enjoy their time at the nursery and make good progress in their learning.
- Children have access to a wide range of easily accessible natural resources. Children develop their imagination and creative skills well, for instance, as they play with blocks of wood to build slides and tracks for their cars.
- The joint owner/managers and their staff have high expectations of the children and the nursery. The well-established team of staff is motivated and highly enthusiastic. Staff regularly contribute to make changes and improvements that will benefit the children.
- Children are happy, confident and develop strong attachments to their key person. Staff who work with the youngest children support their emotional well-being extremely well. Staff support children's growing confidence and sense of self-esteem successfully.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff share information with parents about their children's day, they do not share details of children's progress and next steps often enough to help parents complement children's learning even further at home.
- At times, handwashing routines for younger children mean that they wash their hands quite a while before they eat. As children listen to a story, they touch the floor and other items before staff eventually take them to sit and eat.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the systems for sharing information with parents about children's next steps, to help them complement children's learning further at home
- review the organisation of routines to help younger children gain a deeper understanding of the importance of good personal hygiene practices.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and staff interactions with children.
- The inspector had a meeting with the joint owner/managers.
- The inspector spoke to children, staff and a small number of parents at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children, and looked at the provider's improvement plan.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records, complaints procedures, safeguarding procedures and other written policies and procedures.

Inspector

Hilary Tierney

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff and management are clear about the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. Staff are knowledgeable about the signs and indicators that may alert them to any child protection issues. They monitor children's non-attendance effectively. The management monitors staff performance well. Management encourages staff to develop their professional knowledge, for example, through in-house training and other courses. New staff are encouraged to share their ideas and prior experiences to help improve the outcomes for children. For example, they introduced the use of clay to help children develop their dexterity to support early writing skills. Overall, staff have built good partnerships with parents, carers and other professionals to meet children's needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff complete detailed observations and assessments and track children's progress effectively to extend children's learning even further. Staff know the children well and meet their individual needs effectively. Children develop their communication and language skills well. Staff model and use language to help children think and problem solve. For instance, they ask children questions, such as 'how many wheels do you think you will need?' and 'what do we need to make sure the people are safe?'. Children develop their mathematical understanding and literacy skills well. For example, children count confidently and are encouraged to write their own names on their work.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle extremely quickly into the nursery. Staff who work with the younger children have a caring approach towards the children. They offer plenty of comfort and reassurance when children become upset or unsure. Young children are able to move freely between playrooms and explore the variety of available resources. Children have regular access to an outside play space, where they explore the world around them and develop their physical skills well. Children are encouraged to manage their own care skills, such as putting on their shoes, waterproof trousers and coats as they get ready to go outside. Children enjoy taking responsibility for small tasks, such as giving out plates and cups to their friends during mealtimes.

Outcomes for children are good

Pre-school children count confidently, recognise shapes and work well together as they play. They take pride in their achievements, such as showing other staff their clay models. Babies and young children demonstrate that they feel safe and secure. Children are well behaved. Staff prepare all children well for the next stages in their learning and their eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	133466
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	1089468
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 - 4
Total number of places	57
Number of children on roll	73
Name of registered person	The Town Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP908154
Date of previous inspection	5 March 2015
Telephone number	01608 645646

The Town Nursery was registered in 2001. The nursery opens each weekday from 8am to 6pm all year round. There are 17 members of staff, including the two owner/managers. Of these, 15 staff hold appropriate early years qualifications, including two with early years professional status and one with qualified teacher status. The nursery provides free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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