

Toybox Great Denham

90 Saxon Way, Great Denham, Beds, MK40 4GP



Inspection date	7 February 2018
Previous inspection date	2 October 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- Leaders have the highest of expectations for children's learning and development. They constantly evaluate the quality of the provision, making effective use of the contributions of practitioners, parents and children.
- Practitioners successfully provide a broad programme of learning experiences that help children to achieve exceedingly well. Children who are slower to learn key skills are supported very effectively to make rapid progress, given their starting points.
- A concerted programme of continuous professional development gives practitioners high skill levels. Students and less experienced staff are wholly supported by their mentors and colleagues. Teaching throughout the nursery is inspirational and morale is high.
- Children develop strong emotional bonds with the adults who care for them. Practitioners implement sensitive and flexible settling-in procedures when children first start and when they move into new rooms. Children demonstrate tremendously confident and independent attitudes.
- Parents speak highly of practitioners and say communication is excellent. Extremely effective two-way partnerships help parents and practitioners to superbly support children's well-being and ongoing development.
- Older children, in particular, have exceptional levels of knowledge. They practise writing with confidence and talk about their interests and experiences with assurance. They enthusiastically pick out and repeat phonic sounds and have fun with numbers and shapes.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to enhance the already rich and imaginative learning opportunities that help younger children to explore and use all of their senses, indoors and outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning. She spoke to children and staff during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with one of the nursery managers. She looked at and discussed the nursery's self-evaluation.
- A meeting was held with the nursery managers and representatives of the registered provider. Documentation was sampled, including evidence of the suitability of practitioners, their training and children's records.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through discussion and written testimonials.

Inspector

Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Managers and practitioners have a thorough understanding of the signs of abuse and the procedures to follow if children are at risk. Team meetings are used very effectively to give practitioners confidence in implementing the safeguarding procedures. Children's safety is given a very high priority. For example, practitioners ensure anyone collecting children is authorised to do so. Consistently maintained adult-to-child ratios help to keep children safe. Managers meticulously monitor practitioners' teaching practice, providing effective guidance for them to enhance their impressive skills. Practitioners enthusiastically embrace all opportunities to extend their qualifications. Consistent monitoring of children's achievements helps practitioners to identify those who need extra help. Feedback gathered from local schools provides managers with clear ideas for building on children's readiness for their entry into Reception classes.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Practitioners use their in-depth knowledge of the children's interests to provide them with rich and meaningful learning experiences. For example, they plan and provide a range of activities around superheroes. Children excitedly recreate their favourite characters through imaginative storytelling, drawing, painting and dressing up. Practitioners skilfully extend children's communication and language skills. They engage them in thoroughly enjoyable singing games and enthusiastically support spontaneous story times. Leaders are working towards enhancing the already extensive sensory experiences provided for younger children to raise their achievements still further.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children have excellent support from practitioners to learn about keeping healthy. They follow very well-established hygiene routines and benefit from highly nutritious, freshly cooked meals. Older children engage eagerly in energetic sporting activities, such as tennis. Supported by caring practitioners, younger children learn to take risks, for example, as they balance on blocks. Children's behaviour is exemplary and they show deep care and affection for each other. They help each other find their belongings and show kind sympathy if anyone is upset. Carefully planned activities and plentiful resources help children to understand about other people's beliefs and lifestyles.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children become curious, active and interested learners. They investigate the properties of different materials, such as shaving foam, with excited interest. Younger children learn that sticks in mud make marks and recreate those marks with chunky pens and crayons. Older children listen enthralled to stories. They have a great sense of humour and tell jokes with confidence. Mathematical concepts are thoroughly explored as, for example, children weigh and measure ingredients for gingerbread men. Children make outstanding progress in their learning and are exceptionally well-prepared for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY462893
Local authority	Bedford Borough
Inspection number	1123062
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	73
Number of children on roll	120
Name of registered person	Toybox Great Denham Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP532624
Date of previous inspection	2 October 2013
Telephone number	01234 860500

Toybox Great Denham registered in 2013 and in 2017 became part of Busy Bees Nurseries Ltd. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round apart from bank holidays from 7am until 7pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. There are 33 staff employed to work with the children, including the two managers. Of these, seven have early years teacher status and 22 other staff members hold qualifications between level 6 and level 2.

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