

Dimension Childcare

HORNDEAN CAMPUS BARTON CROSS, HORNDEAN, HAMPSHIRE PO8 9PQ



Inspection date	7 September 2018
Previous inspection date	16 April 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- Staff show a strong commitment to development and improvement, and make changes that have a positive impact on children's experiences. For example, by developing even further the outdoor play areas.
- Management has made good use of additional funding to improve learning for children. For example, staff have accessed training to support children's communication and language skills in readiness for school.
- Staff plan and provide a good variety of purposeful activities and experiences that children enjoy. Children make good progress in their overall development from their starting points.
- Staff are good role models to children. Children are polite, kind and show consideration to others. Staff completely value children as individuals, developing a culture of safety and mutual respect.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff share a wealth of information with parents to support children's care and development. Parents welcome the opportunity to attend a variety of events to discuss their children's ongoing development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, key persons are not ready to greet children, allowing some daily routines to take priority. Therefore, they are not always available to help children settle and become familiar with the setting
- At times, some staff do not use their good teaching skills effectively to challenge children and extend their chosen play and learning even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the key-person system and daily routines to provide children with greater levels of support throughout the day
- support staff to be more consistent in using their good teaching skills to extend children's chosen play and learning even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the quality of teaching and the impact this was having on children's progress.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents, including the suitability of staff, risk assessments, behaviour management, and accident and incident records.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector took into account the views and comments of parents.

Inspector

Janet Thouless

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff know what to do if they suspect a child is at risk of harm. They attend continuous training to enable them to recognise and report any child protection concerns. There are suitable recruitment and vetting procedures in place to ensure staff remain suitable to work with children. Staff receive a good level of support to help them improve their knowledge and skills, such as through regular training and supervision meetings. Management reviews children's progress and uses this information well to help evaluate the effectiveness of the setting. Staff describe appropriate arrangements for collecting older children from school and suitable risk assessments are in place.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff observe children and plan activities around their interests. They quickly identify areas where they are doing well and where they may need more support. Staff work extremely well with other professionals to make sure appropriate plans are in place to support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Overall, staff capture children's chosen play successfully. For example, they ask questions to help develop children's thinking skills. Children enjoy expressing their new ideas as they create volcanos in sand play. Staff support older children's early literacy skills well, and children can identify and write letters in their name.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are kind, caring and considerate. They get to know children's personalities and interests, and use this knowledge effectively to support their overall well-being. Staff follow babies' individual home routines consistently. This helps the youngest children to feel emotionally secure and settle into the nursery well. Children show good levels of care and empathy for others. For example, as staff read them a story they make room for their friends to join them. Children lead a healthy lifestyle. They participate in active play and know to concentrate carefully when walking along balance blocks to keep themselves safe. Babies show confidence in their emerging physical skills. For example, as they climb the small steps of a slide. Staff are deployed well to support and help keep children safe. The premises are clean, hygienic and well maintained.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop skills that prepare them well for their future learning, including school. Older children enjoy learning about the world around them. For example, children observe how tadpoles grow and change over time. Toddlers independently complete tasks themselves. For instance, they know to select a plate, chose a number of fruits and pour drinks independently at snack times. Babies show delight as they explore sensory play, such as moisturising lotion, sand and bubbly water.

Setting details

Unique reference number	110237
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10060470
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	135
Number of children on roll	243
Name of registered person	Horndean Technology College Governing Body
Registered person unique reference number	RP517965
Date of previous inspection	16 April 2014
Telephone number	023 92599753

Dimension Childcare registered in 2000. The nursery and out-of-school club operate from Horndean Technology College in Hampshire. The nursery opens each weekday from 7.30am until 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The out-of-school club operates before and after school and during school holidays. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 29 members of staff working directly with the children, 27 of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications.

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