

Chard NNI/Schools Out

Clare House, Millfield, Chard, Somerset TA20 2DA



Inspection date	18 September 2018
Previous inspection date	16 September 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is good

- The manager and her staff reflect well on the provision and their practice. The manager seeks the input of staff and parents to help her prioritise areas for improvement and ensure positive outcomes for children. For example, the manager and staff have reorganised the indoor environment to develop learning opportunities further and increase children's choice of resources and activities.
- Children form exceptionally close bonds with the staff and are extremely secure and confident. Partnership working with parents and external agencies are inspirational and highly effective in meeting children's needs, particularly those children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- Staff use their accurate assessments of children's learning to monitor their progress successfully and plan activities which children thoroughly enjoy.
- The manager is a strong leader and dedicated to providing a high-quality provision. She supports staff well to develop their skills and knowledge to improve teaching. For example, training has helped staff to support children in developing good communication skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, staff who work with the younger children miss opportunities for them to count and use numbers.
- Occasionally, during adult-led activities, staff do not give children the time that they need to express themselves and develop their ideas further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of opportunities that arise for younger children to count and use numbers
- provide older children with consistent opportunities during adult-led activities to express themselves and develop their ideas further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and spoke to staff, children and parents.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's learning records and safeguarding procedures.

Inspector

Michelle Heimsoth

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff have a good understanding of child protection issues. They are confident to recognise the signs and symptoms that may be a cause for concern and know what to do if they need to report concerns about a child's welfare. Staff recruitment and vetting procedures are thorough and robust. The manager ensures staff's ongoing suitability through regular supervisory meetings and working alongside them. The manager supports staff effectively to plan activities and experiences to meet children's next steps successfully. Staff identify any gaps in children's learning well and plan purposeful activities to close these quickly.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan a wide range of experiences and activities, and make learning enjoyable. Babies move around freely, using their senses well to explore and investigate. For example, as children enjoy filling and emptying containers with sand, staff encourage them to feel the texture of the sand as they experiment with different utensils, such as funnels and spades. Staff successfully capture older children's interests and extend their learning effectively. They introduce words, such as 'thorax' when talking to the children about the parts of an insects body, which helps to build on their good vocabulary.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The excellent key-person system ensures staff meet babies' and children's physical and emotional needs extremely well. Children have excellent manners and their behaviour is exemplary. They use their language exceptionally well and resources, such as timers, to help them negotiate and share resources extremely successfully. Staff are superb role models and highly sensitive to less confident children, helping them to develop excellent social skills extremely well. For example, staff provide children with a wide range of materials, including small vehicles, drainpipes and balls, to collaborate with one another in different ways, initiating conversation and forming strong relationships. Staff give children much praise and encouragement, which very effectively boosts children's self-esteem.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning. They develop effective skills that prepare them well for their next stage of development and school. Older children enthusiastically search for bugs in the garden. They use magnifying glasses confidently to study the different insects, using descriptive words successfully to talk about their observations. Children of all ages develop a strong interest in books. Older children join in with familiar phrases and listen well at group story time. Younger children enjoy sharing books with staff and confidently answer questions to show they have a good understanding. Older children show a keen interest in shapes, confidently recognising them in the environment.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY262443
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	10060401
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 - 9
Total number of places	66
Number of children on roll	85
Name of registered person	Chard NNI Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP521456
Date of previous inspection	16 September 2014
Telephone number	01460 62367

Chard Neighbourhood Nursery registered in 2003. It operates from the town of Chard, Somerset. The nursery opens every weekday from 7.30am until 6pm for 51 weeks of the year. There are 15 staff, including the manager, who work with the children. The manager has a childcare qualification at level 5. One member of staff has a qualification at level 6, one at level 5 and the others are qualified at level 3. The nursery is in receipt of funding to provide free early education for two-year-old children. There is an administrator who supports the staff team.

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