

Fusion Southend Small Steps Nursery

The Chase Sports and Fitness Centre, 250 Prittlewell Chase, Westcliff On Sea SS0 0PR



Inspection date	12 November 2018
Previous inspection date	20 December 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
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

- The management team shows a strong commitment to improving the provision for the children who attend. It has worked effectively with the local authority to evaluate its practice and has successfully addressed the actions and recommendations set at the last inspection.
- Parents are extremely happy with the care provided and appreciate being involved in their child's learning. They have contributed photographs for a family wall and value the 'home learning' activities that are provided.
- Staff build on what children already know and provide exciting activities that motivate them to learn more. For example, they have developed a book of dinosaurs, with photographs and relevant vocabulary, to engage children who have a deep fascination for the subject.
- Children gain a very robust understanding of how to keep themselves safe. They know how to cross a road safely, hold hands when on outings and climb up and down the stairs very carefully.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff's professional development is not focused on raising their skills and the quality of teaching to an even higher level.
- The youngest children do not have enough opportunities to practise and develop their large-muscle movements and physical skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus professional development more precisely on raising the quality of teaching to a higher level
- maximise opportunities for babies to develop their large-muscle movements and physical skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching indoors and outside and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and a range of other documents, including evidence of staff suitability.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Fiona Sapler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

There are ongoing systems for performance management and the manager makes sure staff fully understand their roles and responsibilities. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a clear understanding of how to protect children in their care and know whom to contact to report their concerns. This includes broader safeguarding issues, such as recognising signs that a child might be at risk from extreme views and behaviours. The staff team works very closely with other agencies to help improve the outcomes for children. For example, staff meet with the area special educational needs coordinator to help them implement programmes that support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities to make good progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Key persons know the children really well. They make regular and precise assessments of the children's stages of learning and development and plan activities that support them to make good progress. Children enjoy practising their observation skills. For example, outdoors, they try and be the first one to spot the stone dragon or a crow and, indoors, excitedly identify airlines of the planes flying overhead. Staff skilfully introduce mathematics through the activities provided. Children count the ambulances they see and solve simple problems, such as deciding how many people can fit into the 'house' they are building. Mealtimes are sociable occasions. Children enjoy chatting to staff about their experiences and their interests. Staff respond by listening intently. They ask open-ended questions and provide time for children to think about their answers.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff work well together and create a calm and welcoming learning environment. Children come into the setting very happily and soon settle. There is good information sharing with parents and carers to support children's well-being. Parents tell the key person significant news about their child and any special achievements. Children learn good manners and are well behaved. Staff praise positive behaviour, such as waiting patiently or tidying up. Children have plenty of opportunities for fresh air. Babies are taken out every day in their pushchairs and older children enjoy daily walks into the local community.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress and are well prepared for their next stage of learning. They are confident communicators. Older children are excited to learn and practise new words, such as 'stomping' and 'reflection'. Babies babble and easily make their needs known. They are all becoming more independent. Children serve themselves raisins from a bowl and pour their own drinks, and younger children are mastering using a spoon to feed themselves. Children show a keen interest in the natural environment. They listen out for the different bird calls and decide what vegetables are growing in the allotment when they go for their regular outings.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY493772
Local authority	Southend-on-Sea
Inspection number	10079692
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	1 - 4
Total number of places	22
Number of children on roll	19
Name of registered person	Fusion Lifestyle
Registered person unique reference number	RP902293
Date of previous inspection	20 December 2017
Telephone number	01702 433007

Fusion Southend Small Steps Nursery registered in 2015. The nursery operates Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6.30pm all year round, apart from bank holidays. The nursery provides funded places for two-, three- and four-year-olds. There are five members of staff. The manager holds an early years qualification at level 4 and all other staff are qualified at level 3.

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