

Scallywags Child Care Centre

Wey Valley Campus, Dorchester Road, WEYMOUTH, Dorset DT3 5AJ



Inspection date	29 May 2019
Previous inspection date	18 February 2015

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

This provision is good

- The management team and staff interact well with the children and have a good understanding of child development. They make regular observations and use their accurate assessments to monitor children's learning and progress successfully.
- Self-evaluation is effective. The management team regularly reflect on the provision and implement effective changes to ensure positive outcomes for children. For example, staff provide older children with materials and cardboard boxes instead of dressing-up clothes in the role-play area, which has improved children's creativity and imagination.
- Partnerships with parents, external agencies and other early years provisions are strong. The management team and staff share information well with parents, enabling them to support their children's learning at home. Staff work closely with other professionals to close any gaps in learning.
- Children behave well. Staff are good role models to children and develop warm and caring relationships. This supports children's emotional well-being successfully.
- On occasion, staff do not provide children with a wide range of materials and tools to encourage them to try out their ideas and develop their language skills consistently. For example, in the toddler room, children tried to make sandcastles with dry sand.
- Sometimes, staff who work with younger children do not organise mealtimes effectively so that all children feel part of the group and have consistent opportunities to develop their social skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to use a wide range of tools and materials to encourage them to try out their ideas and support their language development even further
- organise snack time for younger children more effectively so that they all feel part of the group and have even further opportunities to develop good social skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector, manager and deputy manager completed a joint observation.
- The inspector spoke to staff, children and parents.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's learning records and planning.

Inspector

Michelle Heimsoth

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff are confident in recognising the signs and symptoms that may be a cause for concern. They are clear on the correct reporting procedure to follow. Staff recruitment and vetting procedures are thorough. The manager and deputy manager regularly review staff's ongoing suitability and the quality of teaching through observation of staff's practice and regular supervision meetings. Staff keep their professional knowledge up to date. For example, they use skills gained from training to help children express their feelings and manage their behaviour well for themselves. The management team and staff carry out thorough risk assessments to identify hazards and help keep children safe. Older children enjoy the responsibility of helping staff to carry out the checks. The helper of the day in the pre-school room accompanies the member of staff with a picture checklist to make sure that everything is as it should be, such as ensuring the gate is locked. This helps older children to develop an even better understanding of safety.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The management team and staff work well together to provide good-quality learning experiences for all children. Babies excitedly explore their environment using their senses. They practise putting one container inside another and giggle excitedly as they stack cups until they topple over. Staff support young children well to pull themselves up to a standing position to practise walking and develop good physical skills. Staff encourage young children to count and use numbers as they play. For example, children count their fingers as staff draw around their hands. Staff support older children effectively as they observe the butterflies and the giant African land snail. Children confidently talk about what they know and use books well to extend their learning and understanding further.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop a good understanding of the importance of a healthy lifestyle. They enjoy nutritious snacks and well-balanced meals. They follow good hygiene routines and enjoy daily exercise and fresh air. Staff support new children well to settle and feel secure. Children form strong attachments to their key person and other staff, which builds their confidence and self-esteem successfully. Older children play well together. They have a good understanding of right and wrong, share resources and take turns well.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop a wide range of skills, which prepares them well for their future learning and starting school. Young children begin to draw and make marks on paper, while older children begin to write and recognise their name. Older children show good levels of independence and concentrate well in activities. They confidently talk about their feelings, listen to one another well and help each other with tasks, such as tidying away the toys.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY384987
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	10070248
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	78
Number of children on roll	147
Name of registered person	Scallywags Childcare Centre Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP906863
Date of previous inspection	18 February 2015
Telephone number	01305813038

Scallywags Childcare Centre registered at its current premises in 2009. It operates from a purpose-built, single-storey premises situated in the grounds of the Wey Valley School Sports College Campus in Weymouth, Dorset. The centre is open Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm, all year round. They are in receipt of funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. They also care for children over the age of eight years during school holidays. There are 30 staff employed, of whom two hold early years teacher status, 24 are qualified to level 3 and four are qualified to level 2.

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