

Sunbeams Day Nursery

2 Compass Terrace, Southwell Business Park, PORTLAND, Dorset DT5 2NP



Inspection date

9 July 2019

Previous inspection date

4 December 2018

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

This provision is good

- The manager and provider have worked hard with the staff team to raise the quality of the provision. Staff are now confident in their developing teaching skills and enjoy regular opportunities for professional development to raise standards.
- Staff support children's chosen play well. They use some good teaching skills to extend children's learning. For example, they ask open-ended questions, engage well in their imaginative play and give children time to think of solutions for themselves. Children make good progress.
- The ongoing improvements to the learning environment have had a positive impact on children's welfare and development. They choose resources from uncluttered rooms and explore and investigate the well-resourced outdoor area eagerly.
- Staff are good role models for children's behaviour. In turn, children learn to share and play cooperatively, happy to take care of their younger friends.
- Self-evaluation is effective and has had a very positive impact on the quality of the provision. The manager and owner involve staff, children and parents in identifying areas for development and driving continuous improvements.
- Staff do not always encourage children to be aware of their environment, to help them assess potential risks as they explore and play.
- Staff miss opportunities to support and extend children's mathematical development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop children's awareness of their environment to help them assess potential risks as they explore and play
- provide more opportunities to promote children's understanding of mathematics through everyday play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises, to check the areas used by children. She observed the interactions between staff and children at play.
- The inspector spoke with parents, children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection to gather their views about the nursery.
- The inspector and manager observed an activity together and discussed the learning intentions.
- The inspector held a meeting with the owner and manager to discuss how the provision is run.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation, such as safeguarding policies, staff suitability documents, children's development records and tracking documents.

Inspector

Anne Mitchell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have attended relevant training and have a secure knowledge of how to protect children from harm and neglect. The manager ensures that she checks staff knowledge and understanding regularly. Partnership with parents is strong. Staff communicate with parents in a variety of ways to ensure they are fully informed of their child's progress and any events or changes in the nursery. The manager encourages parents to contribute to their child's development record by providing information about what children do and achieve at home, allowing staff to build on this at nursery. The nursery has good links with other professionals to ensure children's welfare is at the heart of its practice. The manager meets with staff individually to discuss their welfare, the progress of their key children and any other issues. Staff say they feel well supported and enjoy good opportunities for professional development. For example, the manager has worked with them to develop their teaching skills. Staff now interact well with children and extend their learning effectively.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children's chosen play well. They make observations throughout the session. They use this information well to extend and plan activities to move children on. The manager has a good overview of each child's development, enabling her to identify where children need more support. Children choose to play outside and, overall, enjoy developing their skills. For example, older children write messages and lists on their clipboards, while toddlers use water and big brushes to make marks on the walls. They follow a member of staff eagerly as they look for bees, butterflies and bugs, using magnifying glasses, crossing them off the list once found.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are good role models and speak to colleagues and children with respect, using good manners. Staff use positive strategies to help children take turns and share. The key-person system works well. For example, the youngest children are close to their key persons who support their development, provide personal care during nappy changes and settle them to sleep. This close bond supports the emotional development of babies and pre-school children well.

Outcomes for children are good

Children of all ages develop the skills they need for the next stage of learning. They become independent from an early age. For example, older children learn to turn the tap on the water butt, to fill their watering cans while young children feed themselves and explore the environment confidently. Children's communication is good and they benefit from the positive interaction of staff. The inviting learning environment provides children with a willingness to learn. For example, they love to feed the chickens and collect the eggs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY444777
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	10089098
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	1 - 8
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	53
Name of registered person	The Cubbyhouse Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP531504
Date of previous inspection	4 December 2018
Telephone number	01305 823111

Sunbeams Day Nursery registered in 2012. It is located on the Isle of Portland, Dorset. The nursery is open from 7am to 6pm. The nursery employs nine members of staff. The owner holds an early years qualification at level 5, and other staff, including the manager, hold early years qualifications at level 3 and 2. One member of staff holds an early years foundation degree.

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