

Top Corner Day Care

Brambles Farm T A Site, Longlands Road, Middlesbrough TS3 8DR



Inspection date	29 August 2019
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Not applicable	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

- Children are cared for in a nurturing environment. They are happy and settled in the nursery and enjoy the stimulating resources and activities available.
- An effective key-person system is in place and children form strong bonds with all staff. This helps to support children's self-confidence and emotional well-being.
- Children enjoy free-flow access to outdoors, which helps promote their choice and independence and also their physical health and well-being.
- The procedure for assessing children's learning and development is consistent and rigorous. This means that support arrangements for children who may need additional help are quickly implemented.
- Partnership working with parents and other professionals is good. This contributes well to the support that children with additional needs receive.
- All staff have a positive attitude towards continuous professional development and complete relevant training courses, which improves the overall quality of the provision.
- There is an effective staff supervision procedure in place which includes a focus on the quality of teaching. As a result, teaching is good and children are making good progress.
- Most fire exits within the building are clearly identifiable, however, the exit sign from the pre-school room into the main building is not clear. This could pose a hazard in an emergency situation.
- Most resources and equipment are in good condition. However, a broken safety gate between the baby room and out-of-school room poses a risk of injury.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that all fire exits are clearly identifiable
- take all reasonable steps to ensure staff and children are not exposed to risks, in this instance the possible risks posed by a damaged safety gate.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- A joint observation was undertaken by the inspector and the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working with children.
- The inspector spoke to three parents during the inspection and also viewed letters left by other parents, and took account of their views.

Inspector

Elaine McDonnell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager has a strong commitment to providing the best possible care and education for children. She supports staff well through an effective supervision process, which includes regular constructive feedback. As a result, staff are reflective and confident practitioners. The setting has worked closely with the local authority to identify strengths and areas for future development, which have been quickly implemented by staff. This has improved learning outcomes for children and supports continuous improvement in the overall provision. Safeguarding is effective. All staff demonstrate a good knowledge and understanding of how to keep children safe and of the procedures to follow if they have any concerns.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The setting works well with speech and language therapists and with school nurseries, to ensure that children receive consistent support. Activities for children are stimulating and take account of their interests. Staff reflect on activities and identify what went well and how they may adapt them next time to improve the experience and learning for some children. For example, staff identified that they could have introduced more new describing words for younger children when making play dough. However, staff do use good questioning techniques to promote children's thinking, problem-solving and language skills. Lots of mathematics language and problem-solving skills are promoted during a play dough-making activity. Children learn about healthy lifestyles and the setting has been awarded a gold star from the local authority for its implementation of the 'Food 4 Health' programme.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are well behaved and are keen to attend the nursery. They show care and consideration for their peers. For example, when a younger child wanted to help chop salad items for lunch, an older child gave her the tomatoes as they 'are easier to chop than the carrots'. Staff know the children well and plan learning experiences around their interests. Children explain that they like playing with the indoor and outdoor castles. Staff then planned a range of interesting and related activities, including visits and outings away from the setting. Children are well supported to move on to nursery school or to another room within the setting. They also have 'resettling visits' at the end of August after the summer holiday break. This supports their emotional well-being and confidence to separate from parents again.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress in relation to their starting points. Effective procedures for partnership working with parents, other settings and professionals ensure that individual children's needs are met. Children have a positive attitude towards learning and concentrate for extended periods because they are stimulated by the activities available. For example, they 'paint' the large wooden outdoor castle with soapy water. The children explain that the water dries 'because it's warm and windy'.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY548874
Local authority	Middlesbrough
Inspection number	10120999
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	48
Number of children on roll	17
Name of registered person	Top Corner Day Care Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP548873
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01642 241389

Top Corner Day Care registered in 2018. The nursery employs four members of childcare staff plus an apprentice. Of these, two staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and two have level 6 qualifications. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The setting is in receipt of funding to provide early education for two- and three-year-old children.

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