

# Inspection of Thornhill Day Nursery - Tommies Childcare

10 Thornhill Road, Off Albany Road, Derby, Derbyshire DE22 3LX

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Inspection date: 2 June 2021

<b>Overall effectiveness</b>	<b>Requires improvement</b>
The quality of education	<b>Requires improvement</b>
Behaviour and attitudes	<b>Requires improvement</b>
Personal development	<b>Requires improvement</b>
Leadership and management	<b>Requires improvement</b>
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

## **What is it like to attend this early years setting?**

### **The provision requires improvement**

Children demonstrate that they are happy, safe, and secure at the nursery. They have close attachments with their key person and look to them for reassurance when they are upset or tired. Children are cared for by staff who are familiar with their routines and care needs. For example, babies snuggle up to their key person and fall asleep in their arms when they are tired.

Children play in a bright, well-resourced environment. Babies explore textures and learn to handle small items as they paint pictures with brushes and fir cones. Staff celebrate the children's achievements through praise. In return the babies smile with pride and delight. Older children explore what happens to water when paint is added, they watch with curiosity as the colours and water mix together. Despite children showing enjoyment when participating in activities, the delivery of meaningful play experiences is inconsistent.

Children follow instructions and behave well. The babies show perseverance and determination as they tackle appropriate risks, such as negotiating the steps on the indoor climbing frame. Children who are identified as having special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported by staff. However, staff are not confident in the nursery policy, and the process for involving parents and external agencies. This runs the risk that specific support and services children need may not come swiftly enough.

### **What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?**

- Parents speak highly of the nursery. They appreciate the flexible settling-in arrangements and comment on the warm and caring relationships between staff and children. Parents say that they receive information about their child through an electronic system, parents' evenings, and daily feedback. While parents feel they know what their child is doing at the nursery, staff are not always giving parents clear information about their child's next stage of learning. Staff do not consistently share ideas with parents to help with learning at home.
- Staff find out about children's experiences and opportunities outside of nursery. They use this information to broaden children's learning. For example, children that have no access to an outdoor area at home benefit from daily opportunities to play in the nursery garden, where there is space and resources to support their development.
- Staff help children to manage their feelings and behaviour. They also address children's personal care needs quickly, such as nappy changes and cleaning faces. Staff support children's emotional well-being by offering praise and encouragement. Children are offered healthy snacks and water to drink, and they enjoy freshly made nutritious meals.

- Staff identify children that may have special educational needs and/or disabilities through observation. However, staff do not take swift enough action to help families access relevant services from other agencies, to ensure that children with a specific need are appropriately supported.
- Staff find out about experiences children have had before starting at the nursery, this helps them to understand what children already know and can do. However, staff do not use ongoing assessment well enough to understand the level of development all children are at, to then provide them with the most appropriate learning experiences.
- Leaders and managers have systems for staff's supervision. However, the focus of supervision is more about policies and procedures and less about the curriculum intent and implementation. This results in some staff not being clear about how to deliver an effective curriculum.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a sound knowledge and understanding of safeguarding and child protection. The manager and staff have attended child protection training. This ensures that they remain alert to the indicators that suggest children may be suffering from harm. Staff know the process they must follow if they have any concerns about a child or a member of staff. Staff are vigilant in following procedures when children are absent, they monitor children's attendance closely. Staff make sure the premises are secure to ensure children cannot leave unsupervised and any unauthorised visitors to the setting cannot gain entry. Staff ensure that all necessary permissions are sought from parents.

## What does the setting need to do to improve?

**To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the provider must:**

	Due date
ensure assessment is used well, to understand the level of achievement, interests and learning styles, and to then shape learning experiences for each child	28/07/2021
ensure staff link with and help families to access relevant services from other agencies as appropriate for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.	28/07/2021

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

- improve strategies for sharing information with parents so they are clear about what the learning intention is for their child and how they can help support children's learning at home
- improve practitioner's knowledge and understanding of how to deliver a strong curriculum.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	2498864
<b>Local authority</b>	Derby
<b>Inspection number</b>	10191490
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	0 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	70
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	28
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Tommies Childcare Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP900852
<b>Telephone number</b>	01332346088
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable

## Information about this early years setting

Thornhill Day Nursery - Tommies Childcare registered in 2018 and is in Derby. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff. Four of these, hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 including two staff at level 6. The nursery opens from 7.30am to 6pm.

## Information about this inspection

**Inspector**  
Kelly Langley

## Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the setting and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector and the manager completed a joint observation.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and other members of staff. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to three parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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