

Inspection of Blossoms Day Nursery

St Nicholas Church, 30 Wareham Road, Corfe Mullen, Dorset BH21 3LE

Inspection date: 26 August 2021

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The manager and her team create a warm and welcoming environment. Children feel happy, safe and secure. They form strong attachments with staff and settle quickly in their care. Children enthusiastically join in activities and play with their friends. They are well behaved, kind and considerate. Children take turns with others during play and are well mannered.

Staff work with parents to get to know children's needs and interests. Staff incorporate these into planned activities to provide targeted support. They regularly assess children's learning and identify areas for development.

Children of all ages develop a love of reading and enjoy a wide range of books. They select books independently and enthusiastically shout out 'over it, under it' and 'through it' as they listen to staff read stories.

Parents now leave their children at the door, due to COVID-19 (coronavirus) restrictions. Staff help children well to part from their parents. For example, staff provide children with gentle support and comfort upon arrival. They encourage older children to hang up their bags and self-register. Staff share detailed information with parents about their child's care and learning daily. They keep parents informed through discussions at the doorstep and electronic communication.

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

- The manager's intent for the curriculum is clear. Staff provide a varied curriculum that builds on what children know and can do. They know children well and plan enjoyable activities that children are keen to take part in. However, at times, staff do not organise activities as well as they could and they miss some opportunities to extend older children's learning.
- Staff provide varied opportunities for children to learn about the local and wider community. For example, children collect tins and packet foods for a local food bank. Staff chose books that explore the similarities and differences between children and others. Children are beginning to understand what makes them unique.
- Children enjoy playing outdoors. They develop strong physical skills, balance and coordination. Older children climb over obstacles, ride bicycles and run freely in the space around them. Children focus their attention for extended periods of time. For instance, toddlers concentrate well as they practise walking along low ramps.
- Staff encourage children to be independent. Older children are learning how to take care of themselves. They wash their hands independently, serve their own

food, pour drinks and return their dishes after eating.

- Staff are kind, caring and attentive. They notice when children are hungry, upset or tired, and respond sensitively to their individual needs. For example, staff sit with toddlers and gently pat their backs to help them fall asleep.
- Children learn skills that help them to make successful transitions between the rooms. Close links with local schools help to support children's move on to school. Children talk with enthusiasm about their imminent move to school, showing how well staff have prepared them for this change.
- The manager and staff develop good partnerships with parents. They offer parents suggestions about how they can continue to support their children's learning at home. Parents comment positively about their children's experiences in the nursery. They value the information that staff share about their children's learning. Parents appreciate staff's commitment to ensuring children achieve a good level of development.
- The manager and staff strive for improvement continually. When the nursery closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the management team implemented changes to the layout of the indoor area. They transformed part of the office into a reading den/quiet sensory room. Blackout blinds, fairy lights and calming music help children to feel relaxed. Staff use the room in many ways, such as for circle time or for small groups of children to do focused activities.
- The manager makes sure staff keep all mandatory training up to date, including paediatric first aid and safeguarding. However, she does not focus on building on and improving staff's knowledge and skills, to enhance the teaching of the curriculum.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The management team demonstrate a secure understanding of their safeguarding responsibilities. They hold regular discussions with staff and check on their safeguarding knowledge. Staff know the signs that may indicate a child is at risk of harm and the procedures they must follow to report their concerns. Additionally, staff understand the importance of monitoring attendance and changes of behaviour. The manager carries out regular checks on staff's continued suitability to work with children. Children are well supervised. Staff carry out safety checks daily to ensure all children play in a safe and a secure environment.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- make better use of opportunities that arise for older children to extend their thinking and learning skills
- strengthen staff's professional development to enhance staff's knowledge and

skills even further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2501807
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	10191499
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 at time of inspection	0 to 7
Total number of places	17
Number of children on roll	58
Name of registered person	Blossoms Day Nursery Corfe Mullen Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2501806
Telephone number	01202 073293
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Blossoms Day Nursery registered in 2018. The nursery is in Corfe Mullen, Dorset. The setting is open Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm all year round, with the exception of bank holidays and a week at Christmas. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualifications at level 5, three at level 3 and three at level 2.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Rachel Cornish

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provision.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss how the manager plans to teach the children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation and took account of the manager's evaluations.
- The inspector observed and evaluated interactions between staff and children throughout the inspection, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector held discussions with staff, children and parents at appropriate times during the inspection.
- Leadership and management meetings were held throughout the inspection, during which the inspector viewed relevant documentation. This included evidence of the suitability of staff.

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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