

Inspection of Jack in the Box Day Care

Tudhoe Moor Nursery School, Tudhoe Moor, SPENNYMOOR, County Durham DL16 6EX

Inspection date: 2 February 2022

Overall effectiveness **Good**

The quality of education **Good**

Behaviour and attitudes **Good**

Personal development **Good**

Leadership and management **Good**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy, settled and confident in this nurturing setting. They receive a very warm and positive welcome from caring staff who know them well. Children are keen to get involved in play and engage happily and enthusiastically throughout the day.

Children's love of being outdoors is recognised and respected. All children, including the very youngest, choose to spend a good deal of time in the well-resourced outdoor play areas. They have much fun playing and exploring in the fresh air. They crawl, toddle and run around practising and building on their physical skills. Staff support children with their balance on large outdoor play equipment so that they develop their confidence and coordination skills. The sand area is a particular favourite, well-used resource. Children extend their ability to use and control various tools as they fill and empty buckets. They use vehicles to make marks and tracks in the sand, learning valuable skills to help with future writing.

Children learn about the importance of sharing and of being kind to one another. Staff are good role models. They treat everyone with respect and children learn from this. Firm friendships are beginning to form between the children and, overall, they play happily and cooperatively together.

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

- The experienced manager and her dedicated staff team go to great lengths to make sure that children are well looked after. They have made every effort to provide and maintain a high-quality childcare offer during the pandemic. Parents and carers very much appreciate this and also the continued support they receive. For example, they say the setting's willingness to be flexible with childcare hours enables them to meet the demands of changes to their working hours.
- Members of the staff team which includes early years teachers, think carefully about the curriculum for children. They have high expectations of what children can achieve from their different starting points. All children, including those who need additional support, engage in a wide range of learning opportunities. These are planned to help them make good progress in their development.
- Children are curious and interested in all around them. They develop a love of reading and listen attentively to the stories staff read to them to help their language development. Staff skilfully use props, such as animal figures and story sacks, to encourage children's engagement. Books are plentiful and readily available in all rooms. Children are often found sitting in quiet areas looking at books throughout the day.

- Overall, the 'Bouncers' room in which the youngest children are cared for is an enabling environment where they feel relaxed, comfortable and secure. They are able to explore safely and are supported by their key persons. However, the current arrangements for sleep for these younger children mean that they are occasionally disturbed. As a result, they do not always get the rest that they need.
- High standards of cleanliness and stringent procedures to reduce the risk of cross-infection help to promote children's health. Children quickly learn about the importance of washing hands and eating healthy. Meals and snacks are varied, healthy and nutritious. The empty plates after lunch are an indication that the food is very much enjoyed. Children sit happily together at mealtimes and learn important social skills in readiness for school.
- Partnerships with parents and carers are, for the most part, very strong. There is a lot of mutual respect and trust between the two parties, and they work well together to promote children's welfare. Staff are careful to ensure that important information is passed on when children are collected. Some ideas for learning are shared. However, staff have not explored ways to build on this further to help parents support individual children's learning at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The safety of children is at the heart of all practice in this setting. The experienced manager and her team work closely with parents, carers and other agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Staff are very confident in their child protection knowledge and know exactly what to do should they have any concerns. Close attention is paid to safety within the building and thorough risk assessments are completed. Strict procedures are adhered to for dealing with accidents and administering medication. For example, detailed records of accidents are kept and information is shared with parents at the first opportunity.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- review the organisation of the area for sleep for the youngest children so they rest without disturbance
- increase the information given to parents to help them support their child's learning at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY270579
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	10218469
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 4
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	103
Name of registered person	T.M. Nursery Enterprises Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP521689
Telephone number	01388 816112
Date of previous inspection	6 October 2017

Information about this early years setting

Jack in the Box Day Care registered in 2006 and is situated in Tudhoe Moor, County Durham. The nursery opens five days a week from 7.30am until 6pm all year round, except for bank holidays and a week at Christmas. The nursery receives funding for the provision of early education for two- and three-year-old children. There are currently 22 staff working directly with the children, 18 of whom hold appropriate qualifications at level 3 and above, including early year teacher status.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lindsey Pollock

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want the children to learn.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with an early years teacher.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.

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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