

Inspection of Dean Park Day Nursery

Cooper Dean Pavilion, Dean Park, Cavendish Road, Bournemouth, Dorset BH1 1RB

Inspection date: 5 April 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	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy and settled at the nursery. The key-person system is effective and children have developed good relationships with all the staff. Children demonstrate that they feel safe and secure in the staff's care. Babies smile and interact with visitors confidently, while older children are keen to talk about their interests.

The manager and leaders have created a bright and engaging nursery environment. Children can explore and follow their own interests. They make choices about their play, moving freely in the indoor and outdoor spaces. Staff get to know children very well and are highly responsive to children's interests and follow their lead well. Children enjoy fresh air and a range of activities in the extensive outdoor areas. This supports children who prefer to learn outdoors very well. Babies explore sensory activities, such as sand and mud. Older children investigate and discover local wildlife and nature through forest school sessions.

The manager and leaders recognise the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on children's learning and development, specifically in speech and language. They use strategies, such as signing, to help close these gaps. Staff introduce new vocabulary as children play, to promote speech and language skills further.

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

- The new manager has an ambitious vision for the nursery. She has implemented a broad curriculum that gives children the skills and knowledge to build on in their future learning. For example, when making marks with paint, babies practise their pincer grip by placing cutters dipped in paint onto paper. Older children go in search of 'pirates', hunting around outside with magnifying glasses and binoculars. Staff support children to understand the difference between glass and plastic materials.
- Staff use every opportunity to develop children's communication and language skills. They speak clearly and calmly to children. Staff use repetition and recalling of words to ensure children understand their meaning and context. As a result, children, including those who are learning English as an additional language, are making good progress in their language development.
- Staff encourage children to be independent and understand the daily routines. For instance, children hang up their coats after use and wash their hands independently. However, at other times, staff are too quick to jump in and complete tasks for children that they can do for themselves. Staff do not always allow children to problem-solve independently.
- The nursery provides children with healthy home-cooked meals. The chef and the staff have clear information alerting them to any allergies children may have.

Children enjoy meals and snacks according to their dietary and cultural needs.

- Children have stimulating opportunities to learn about the world around them and to develop an understanding and appreciation of difference. They engage in activities that reflect diversity and communities beyond their own experience. For example, children have recently been learning about Ramadan and some of the observances followed.
- Parents are very positive in their reviews of the nursery. They feel well informed about their children's day. Parents feel that their children are settled and enjoy their time at the nursery. Staff provide opportunities for children to continue their learning at home. For instance, they have introduced a nursery library, which enables children to borrow activity packs to do at home.
- Staff work well as a team. They have regular staff meetings to reflect on their practice and the experiences they provide for children. The manager makes good use of supervision meetings to support staff's well-being effectively. Staff are happy and feel well supported in their roles. The manager has identified further training and development for staff to help raise their practice to a higher level.
- There is a positive attitude towards improvement. The nursery is working towards a sustainable citizenship award, creating a more sustainable future for the children. Staff work with children and parents to find ways in which they could be more environmentally friendly, including through re-using and recycling to reduce plastic waste. Children take part in 'beach cleaning' and have produced individual artwork using plastic items found.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of child protection, including aspects such as the risks to children from being exposed to extreme views. They complete regular safeguarding training and understand their safeguarding responsibilities. New staff undergo a thorough induction. This helps staff to become familiar with the nursery's procedures, including the safeguarding policies. Most staff have completed paediatric first-aid training. This ensures they can support children in the event of an accident. Staff carry out risk assessments daily to ensure the nursery is safe for children to access.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- extend the opportunities that support children in learning to carry out tasks and solve problems independently.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2523865
Local authority	Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole
Inspection number	10208187
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	65
Number of children on roll	101
Name of registered person	Dean Park Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	2523864
Telephone number	01202297275
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Dean Park Day Nursery registered in 2019. The nursery is open from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, for 51 weeks of the year. There are 30 members of childcare staff. Four hold qualifications at level 6, two hold qualifications at level 5, two hold qualifications at level 4, 10 hold level 3 qualifications and five are qualified at level 2. The nursery provides early years education for funded two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Rachel Cornish

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 inspector undertook a learning walk with the manager and the deputy manager. They discussed the curriculum and considered the impact of this on children's learning.
- The inspector tracked the progress of several children.
- A discussion was held with the manager, and the inspector checked relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

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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