

Inspection of University Of Portsmouth Nursery

The Quadrant, Milldam, Burnaby Road, PORTSMOUTH, Hampshire PO1 3AS

Inspection date: 8 April 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are greeted on arrival by welcoming staff who enable them to feel safe and secure. They settle quickly and are eager to begin their day. Babies show strong attachments to staff. They are offered nurturing cuddles from their key person. Children are excited to see their friends as they inquisitively explore activities and resources. They make up narratives together, pretending that their toy babies have bumped their heads and applying cold compresses. Children demonstrate positive attitudes towards personal hygiene and healthy eating as they sit at the table during snack time. They talk to staff about washing their hands before eating and the foods on the table that they enjoy the most.

Children behave well and demonstrate good levels of respect for one another. For example, they make space for their peers to pass when playing on the bikes, and use polite manners as they patiently take turns. Children make good progress. Staff plan activities that allow them to follow their interests and have new experiences. For example, during a walk, younger children search for signs of spring. They identify nests and flowers as they ask questions excitedly. Children share their own thoughts and listen for explanations. Through this, they gain new vocabulary and knowledge.

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

- Managers support staff in implementing a meaningful curriculum that focuses on building a good start for children's future learning. For example, the setting is part of a local dental hygiene programme that aims to provide staff, parents and children with an understanding of the importance of toothbrushing. Staff encourage children to talk about their teeth frequently and brush them after lunch. Children develop a good knowledge of oral health and how to stay healthy.
- Staff have good understanding of how to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. They carefully observe children's speech and language development and implement improvement plans. As a result, children achieve the best possible outcomes.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents share positive feedback about the range of ways managers and key people share information with them. They have up-to-date knowledge of what their children are learning and how they are progressing. This supports them to provide opportunities to further their children's learning at home.
- Managers are ambitious and strive to foster a culture of continuous improvement. They use staff meetings to discuss potential changes. For example, they experiment with different group time routines to support children in accessing a variety of learning experiences during the day. Staff feel included

through these changes and know that their views are recognised.

- Children demonstrate positive attitudes as they talk to staff about sharing resources during play. For example, when having a disagreement with the toy bricks, children remember and tell each other that sharing is caring. Through this, they are supported in learning to understand behaviour expectations at the setting.
- Children have regular opportunities to enjoy a range of stories. They have access to a variety of story books and often take them to a member of staff, who enthusiastically reads to them. This supports children in developing a love of reading while also extending their language skills and vocabulary.
- Staff engage in meaningful conversations with children and follow their interests. For example, children enjoy talking about the different cars their parents have, and staff share their enthusiasm as they talk about their own cars. This supports children to gain confidence and feel valued as individuals.
- Staff know children well and plan interesting activities that engage them. At times, some activities provided are not as ambitious for all children. As a result, those children are not always suitably challenged.
- Children have access to outside play. However, the play space available is not always fully utilised, and equipment is not accessed. This means that children do not consistently have opportunities that allow them to build on their physical development and risk management skills.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers have robust safeguarding procedures in place which ensure the safety and welfare of children. Staff have a good knowledge of how to make a referral about a child if they are ever concerned, for example should they identify a pattern of unexplained bruising. They demonstrate that they have a sound understanding of how to report an allegation against an adult working with children. Staff engage regularly with training to keep their knowledge up to date. They demonstrate that they have knowledge of wider safeguarding issues, including gender-based violence and abuse.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- build on how the outdoor area is used, to allow children more opportunities to enhance their physical and risk management skills
- strengthen staff knowledge on how to consistently plan activities that are ambitious and suitably challenging for older children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	143572
Local authority	Portsmouth
Inspection number	10228271
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	37
Number of children on roll	42
Name of registered person	University of Portsmouth Nursery
Registered person unique reference number	RP522340
Telephone number	02392 842299
Date of previous inspection	1 December 2016

Information about this early years setting

University Of Portsmouth Nursery registered in 1979. It operates from purpose-built accommodation within Portsmouth University and serves children of university students and staff. The nursery is open each weekday from 8.30am until 5:30pm, for most of the year. The nursery employs 18 staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications between level 3 and level 6.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Nicola Houston

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 have taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector joined the manager on a learning walk to discuss the curriculum.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.

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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