

Inspection of Tree Tots Day Nursery

Tree Tots Day Nursery, Salisbury Road, Tidworth SP9 7XP

Inspection date: 21 September 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 arrive confidently and are greeted by friendly, enthusiastic staff. Children settle quickly and have strong bonds with staff whom they seek out for comfort when needed. Children are curious and focus for long periods. They carefully fill a bowl with coloured water and consider how dark and deep it might need to be for a fish to live in. Children are active and enjoy plenty of fresh air and exercise. They climb the hill and slide down it on planks and enjoy balancing and climbing on the play equipment.

Children play cooperatively. They make potions together in the forest school and independently use a sand timer to take turns. They say to their friends, 'I need your help', when they are unable to move a tyre alone. When minor disagreements do occur, staff support children to understand the consequences of their actions on others.

Older children learn to be independent in preparation for school. They put on their own shoes and coats and wash their own hands. They learn to take appropriate risks in the forest school. They use tools, build dens and cook on the campfire. This builds confidence and self-esteem. Babies enjoy sensory activities to help develop their motor skills and encourage exploration. Children demonstrate motivation to learn and are happy and secure.

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

- Managers provide a broad and balanced curriculum which staff adapt for each age group. Staff carefully track children's progress. Any gaps in learning are quickly identified, and appropriate steps put in place. Significant concerns are followed up by the special educational needs coordinator, who works closely with other professionals and parents to ensure that children's needs are met.
- Staff support children to develop their communication and language skills. They sing songs to babies and provide a running commentary as they play, to help give meaning to their actions. Staff support older children to extend their vocabulary and engage them in conversation as they play. For example, they talk to children about the 'height' of the hill and pretend it is a 'mountain'.
- Most staff follow children's lead to adapt and extend learning according to their interests and next steps in development. However, at times, expectations of children's mathematical knowledge are too high, and the tools staff provide do not always support children in being successful.
- Children are imaginative. They create potions containing 'orange juice, lightning, octopus ink, herbs and flowers'. Staff encourage children to consider what magic their potions might possess and children explain it will turn them into a 'kind grass fairy'. This nurtures children's communication skills, social skills and

creativity.

- At story time, older children vote for the book they want to listen to using conkers. This helps children to understand British values and democracy and helps them to respect other people, who might have different views.
- Babies enjoy making marks with paint and exploring in sand to develop their motor skills. Older children manipulate play dough with their hands, stir ingredients, cut petals and draw with crayons. These activities help them build their muscles in preparation for early writing.
- Staff nurture children's emotional development. Staff working with babies have a strong understanding of attachment and create a calm, soothing environment. They practise respectful care by talking to babies about what they are doing when they change their nappies or put them down for a nap. Children are supported by staff to manage their emotions using a calming 'sensory den', when needed.
- The nursery supports staff who are new to the early years sector to understand the key skills required before undertaking an apprenticeship. A dedicated senior member of staff mentors and supports their journey and development. This helps to improve and develop their practice and interactions with children.
- Parents value the care and education their children receive and speak highly of the care provided, especially regarding the outside area and forest school sessions.
- During the COVID-19 pandemic, leaders and managers supported local families by providing food parcels and educational packs. Children and families were able to access activities online, such as a fairy walk, songs and stories. This helped children to maintain their relationships with staff and ensure continuity.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers and staff have a strong understanding of their responsibilities in keeping children safe. They are aware of the signs and symptoms that might indicate a child is at risk or abuse. Staff know the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child's welfare or potential allegations against a member of staff. The designated safeguarding lead liaises appropriately with outside agencies to keep children safe. Leaders and managers adopt safer recruitment practices and regularly review the ongoing suitability of staff to work with children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- further support less experienced staff to help them meet children's learning needs more effectively during adult-led activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2577494
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	10239311
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	60
Number of children on roll	58
Name of registered person	TNB Garrison Early Years and Play Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP906629
Telephone number	01980 847 823
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Tree Tots Day Nursery was registered in 2020 and is located in Tidworth, Wiltshire. The nursery is open from 8am to 6pm every weekday, all year round. It is in receipt of funding for children aged two, three and four. There are 22 staff who work with children. Of these, 15 have a relevant early years qualification at level 3 or above, and one holds a level 2 qualification. Six members of staff are unqualified.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Lisa Large

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the nursery 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 and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Children communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual, manager and deputy manager about the leadership and management of the setting.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and read feedback received online 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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