

Inspection of The Brambles Nursery

Cape Cornwall Road, St Just, Cornwall TR19 7JX

Inspection date: 23 January 2023

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 in this nursery. They confidently enter the building, say goodbye to their parents and eagerly join their friends. They have strong relationships with staff and key persons and feel secure in the environment. They have access to lots of interesting toys and activities. For example, children enjoy role play in the 'Red Dragon Chinese restaurant'. Children develop skills in numeracy through various activities. They enjoy weighing ingredients, matching items and developing their understanding around calculating, such as the concept of 'more and less' and counting foods items.

Outdoors, older children balance on wobble boards, develop their hand to eye coordination by throwing balls into a net and extend their gross motor skills while climbing and sliding on the toy castle.

Children enjoy opportunities to develop independence. They hang up their bags, pour their drinks and put on their coats to go outdoors. They choose the activities they like to play with and for how long for.

Toddlers and babies freely explore a warm and inviting indoor environment. They enjoy making 'gingerbread' cookies to go in the toy oven. They listen to the story of 'The Gingerbread Man'. Outdoors, they delight in finding insects, playing with toy animals and digging and building in the sand area.

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

- The manager and staff have created an ambitious curriculum. Staff know children and their stages of development well. Planning is sequential and next steps are relevant. Children make good progress in their learning and develop skills to enable them to move on to the next stage of learning. For example, children in the 'Rising Three's' group are well supported and develop skills such as cutting, gluing and painting. Older children enjoy playing together and share toys well. For example, they build and play together with a toy train set. However, at times the environment can be loud and busy, with lots of movement. Staff do not consistently support children to develop their concentration levels further.
- The manager has created an environment where staff enjoy coming to work. Staff feel well supported in their role. They are knowledgeable in how children learn and develop. Staff sometimes need to cover absences and move between the younger and older children's rooms. They receive information from children's key persons and know where to find children's progress information. However, the regular changes in staffing sometimes impacts the children's routine. For example, not all staff are confident in the planning and expectations for group

activities like 'circle time' and registration. It is not always clear to children what is expected of them in these moments.

- Staff support children's personal, social and emotional development well. There is a strong focus on guiding children to be confident and happy. Staff speak to children in supportive voices and celebrate their achievements. Children explore their feelings with 'emotion cards' and supporting books. Staff hold thoughtful conversations with children and give them time to think and respond. They quickly support children who are in need and help them overcome difficulty.
- The nursery supports children to celebrate other cultures and religious celebrations. For example, during Chinese New Year celebrations they explore Chinese food, read traditional stories and learn how to write the letters of their name in Mandarin. Staff support children to celebrate equality and diversity with small toys and figures which provoke discussion. They guide children to celebrate similarities and differences.
- The staff support children in their language and communication. Management have recognised the extra support that some children need in speaking and communicating since the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff speak with clear voices to role model good speech and support children to hear and understand what they are saying. They provide children with a rich variety of words to extend their vocabulary and repeat difficult words so children can learn these more successfully. Well planned small group sessions support children with targeted activities to improve language and communication skills further. Staff often read books to children, like 'The Magic Porridge Pot'. Children develop a love of stories and reading to support their early literacy skills.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff are knowledgeable and confident in recognising the possible signs of abuse. They know how to record their findings, who to contact and how to refer concerns. The manager has put good safeguarding policies and procedures in place and staff are knowledgeable of these. The manager implements a thorough recruitment procedure and conducts regular appraisals. Staff inductions are well-organised. Staff feel supported in their role, expectations and their safeguarding training. The manager conducts regular risk assessments to ensure the premises are safe.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- review the indoor learning environment to help all children develop their concentration levels further
- support all staff to plan effectively for the needs of older children, particularly during whole group times, to support their overall development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY421711
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	10264901
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	50
Number of children on roll	71
Name of registered person	The Brambles Nursery & Children's Centre Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP530365
Telephone number	01736 786279
Date of previous inspection	29 June 2017

Information about this early years setting

The Brambles Nursery registered in 2011. It is located in the village of St Just, near Penzance, Cornwall. It is open Mondays and Fridays from 8am to 4pm and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8am to 4.30pm. It is open 48 weeks of the year. The nursery receives education funding for two-, three- and four-year-old children. There are fourteen members of childcare staff. Of these, two have level 6 qualifications, one holds a level 4 early years qualification, six hold a level 3 qualification, two hold a level 2 qualification and three are unqualified.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Victoria Jones

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 spoke with the staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector read feedback from parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at 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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