

Inspection of Brambley Tots Day Nursery

Ivel House, Mill Lane, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire SG18 8AZ

Inspection date: 24 January 2023

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

Babies confidently explore a sensory tray while looking at their familiar adults for reassurance. They wait eagerly to see what is next as adults select an item from the tray. Babies giggle and clap as adults support their language with songs. They sit and use blocks to make marks on paper, using paints. Staff are warm and encouraging, praising babies as they do new things. Babies who are new to the setting are offered constant reassurance. As a result, they settle quickly. Children are confident and are motivated by their engaging environment. Children play busily with activities that are planned well to reflect their interests and abilities.

Older children use a variety of toy vehicles to make marks in flour. Staff support children and talk about the different types of vehicles and where they may see them. Older children are excited to go outside of the nursery and listen to sounds in the environment. Children enthuse as they learn and say new words, such as 'crunchy' and 'frost', as they talk about the sounds they make when they step on the grass. Children enjoy playing outside. They paint boxes to make pretend ice blocks and swirl ribbons, making patterns in the air.

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

- A new manager has recently been appointed. There is a strong and committed leadership team in place. The management team has evaluated practice and identified clearly where teaching practice needs to be strengthened.
- An established key-person system helps children and babies to form secure attachments with staff. These warm and friendly relationships promote their well-being and independence. Children appear happy, settled and confident in the nursery.
- Children's behaviour is good. Older children delight in reminding each other of the rules. Staff act as positive role models and encourage children to share resources. Children share well with each other and are kind to their peers.
- Staff provide exciting activities for children. They join in with children as they play to ensure that children have opportunities to learn new things. However, sometimes, children do not have opportunities to make choices about how they wish to explore an activity. As a result, children are not always able to lead their own learning.
- Staff promote children's communication and language development well. They talk to babies about the names of different objects they select. They model clear language for toddlers as they are learning new words. Older children discuss how to build igloos and talk about the names of different animals that live in the Arctic. However, the enthusiastic staff do not allow children enough time to respond to questions. As a result, children lose interest and move on to another activity.

- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported well. The special educational needs coordinators work closely with parents and children to ensure that children get the right support at the earliest opportunity. Leaders and key staff work closely with professionals to maintain consistent and detailed care and learning plans.
- Older children are preparing for their future education and move on to school. They are learning to concentrate in group sessions and to be confident and independent. Children have many opportunities to explore the community around them. Staff skilfully build on what children know. For example, children visit a flour mill and talk about how bread is made. Older children act as role models for younger children and help to set the table up for mealtimes. Children serve themselves lunch and learn valuable skills needed for later life.
- Parents comment positively about staff and their children's experiences in the nursery. They say that staff are loving and caring and that their children make good progress.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Arrangements for safeguarding children are strong. Managers ensure that staff keep their safeguarding knowledge up to date by regularly discussing issues during supervision and staff meetings, including information about potential risks and how to recognise them. Staff are confident that they know how to identify signs of abuse and where to report any child protection concerns. Additionally, all staff know how to recognise inappropriate behaviour from colleagues and how to follow the internal whistle-blowing procedure. Children go on regular outings in the community, and the staff ensure that thorough risk assessments are carried out to keep children safe.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide experiences where children can be curious and explore them for themselves
- allow children time to respond to questions and share their thoughts and feelings.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY418473
Local authority	Central Bedfordshire
Inspection number	10264139
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	64
Number of children on roll	110
Name of registered person	DTA Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901938
Telephone number	01767313636
Date of previous inspection	6 June 2017

Information about this early years setting

Brambley Tots Nursery registered in 2010 and is situated in Biggleswade, Bedfordshire. The nursery employs 22 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, one holds a qualification at level 6, and one holds a qualification at level 7. The nursery is open from Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays and Christmas. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Amy Clarkson

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 her evaluation of the nursery.
- The inspector viewed the nursery and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The nursery manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about the curriculum and what they want children to learn.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- Parents shared their views of the nursery with the inspector.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector spoke with the nursery manager and the deputy manager about the leadership and management of 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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