

Inspection of Born To

Dekkers Wood, Rear of 60, Hambro Hill, Rayleigh, Essex SS6 8BW

Inspection date:

11 May 2023

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children are at one with nature in this highly engaging outdoor nursery. Children thrive in their natural surroundings. When they arrive, children receive warm and friendly cuddles from trusted adults. They demonstrate high levels of emotional security. Leaders and staff have created a curriculum that challenges and inspires children. As a result, children are developing proficiency in a number of life skills. For example, they learn how to keep themselves safe, take care of their environments and manage their personal needs.

Children share special moments with their friends as they swing in large hammocks. They read stories together and see who can swing the highest on the swings. In the mud kitchen, they busy themselves making concoctions with items gathered in the forest. Children climb the trees with confidence, calculating risks and managing their own safety. They know that adults are close by to support and guide them.

Children explore with great curiosity. For example, they learn about the bee swarm that arrived nearby. They make 'bee bombs' so that they give back to nature and provide important plants and flowers for the bee population. A forest walk provides opportunities to identify different trees and leaves. Children develop mathematical language as adults describe shapes and patterns and count forest items.

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

- Children are supported to develop secure attachments with trusted adults. They receive warm, nurturing and respectful care from staff. The well-planned curriculum ensures that children have endless opportunities to develop important social interaction skills, confidence and resilience. The rich and varied experiences support children to develop respect for nature and love for themselves. Children understand that they must be kind to the plants and wildlife as well as being kind to themselves.
- Adults use well-considered language with children that deliberately broadens their vocabulary. For example, during a forest walk, adults explain what 'hollow' means and show children hollow spaces, such as tree stumps and burrows. Mathematical language is used frequently through children's play. Children learn about hexagons and create them from sticks and stones. Children find sticks and use tape measures to compare lengths of longer and shorter sticks. The forest provides an array of natural resources that support mark making and creativity. For example, children paint with sticks and make patterns in the soil.
- Exciting challenges support children to develop perseverance and resilience. For example, children use stone and flint to create a spark and light the fire. Adults encourage children to move energy from their shoulder to their thumb to create

the spark. This helps to develop fine motor skills and core strength. Children keep trying and some successfully start a fire. Children comment that, 'It's okay if you can't do it straight away because you can try again'.

- Children's behaviour is exemplary. They play and work together collaboratively, taking turns and sharing resources. Older children support younger children to learn as they model the rules and expected behaviours. Adults take time to support children in managing their feelings. For example, they ask children to describe how they feel when they have accomplished something or when they are sad. At times, children recognise the need to self-regulate their feelings and find a quiet spot in the forest to relax. Yoga sessions further help children to self-regulate. For example, they engage in 'bee breathing' and feel the space around them as they buzz like bees.
- Children are developing an awareness of healthy lifestyles. They benefit greatly from the fresh air. They recognise the need to rehydrate following physical exercise and when they need to restore energy levels. As a result, children make independent choices about when they eat snacks and have drinks. Children are aware of the importance of handwashing and manage this independently. They are becoming expert nature detectives and know when to put their coats on and wear bug spray.
- Parents say that they feel very fortunate to have a place for their children at the nursery. They speak highly of the knowledgeable and kind staff team. Parents express their happiness regarding how happy and settled their children are and the excellent progress they make.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders go above and beyond to ensure children's safety. There are highly robust procedures in place to keep children safe, such as thorough risk assessments and safety rules regarding the camp. Children demonstrate a secure understanding of the rules and explain these to visitors. Leaders ensure that all staff have a deep understanding of child protection, including the indicators of abuse and how to report concerns. As a result, all staff can take swift action should they have concerns about a child. Robust arrangements are in place for the safe recruitment of staff. This means that only those who are suitable may have access to children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2631955
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10285837
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	3 to 10
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	50
Name of registered person	Born To Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2631956
Telephone number	07399995675
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Born To registered in 2021. It is in Dekkers Wood, in the town of Rayleigh, Essex. The outdoor nursery employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from 9am to 3pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, during school term time. There is also a holiday club that operates for two weeks in the school summer holidays. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Clare Ford

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 inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual about the leadership and management of the setting.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out joint observations of group activities with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.

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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