

Inspection of Muddy Boots Nursery School

Turlin Moor Childrens Centre, Turlin Road, POOLE, Dorset BH16 5AH

Inspection date: 20 September 2024

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	Outstanding
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children enter this friendly nursery happily. Staff are very caring and provide a calm, reassuring approach for children. They focus on nurturing children's well-being and encourage them to share and play cooperatively. Children gain confidence and build secure relationships with staff and their friends. Children benefit from the praise staff give them. They gain a clear sense of self-worth and feel valued and welcomed in the nursery.

Staff have clear expectations and aim to support all children to achieve through their play. They provide a broad curriculum that promotes children's learning and helps them make good progress. Children enjoy being creative and explore colour and texture with interest. For example, they like playing in the outdoor mud kitchen and become absorbed mixing mud, water and leaves. They tell staff they are making a strawberry birthday cake. They begin to use numbers for a purpose as they say, 'The cake needs 10 minutes to cook.'

Children develop good hand-eye coordination skills, such as when they carefully place colourful, magnetic construction pieces together. They show great pride as staff praise them for making such a tall tower. Children enjoy going on local walks with staff, such as to a local nature reserve, the nearby botanical gardens or the beach. Babies enjoy their circle times and singing songs. They recognise a favourite song and begin to follow the actions as they lie down and pretend to be asleep. They giggle in anticipation and when staff say, 'Wake up bunnies' they jump up quickly, showing great excitement.

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

- Leaders and staff are dedicated to providing a high-quality provision for children. They focus on providing children with experiences to help them succeed in all areas of their learning. Leaders support staff very well to develop their knowledge and skills. For example, staff have raised their awareness of ways to encourage children's communication and build on their language skills.
- Parents speak very highly about staff and the setting. Staff work closely with parents to provide a smooth settling-in process for each child. They value parents input to promote a consistent approach for their children's care and learning.
- Staff observe children's play and identify where each child needs to progress next. They plan activities that, overall, help children achieve well in their play. However, at times, staff do not give full consideration to adapting activities or adding further resources to provide sufficient challenges that help sustain all children's interests consistently well.
- All children develop an enjoyment of books. Babies become absorbed looking at

an interactive 'touchy-feely' book. Older children enjoy hearing a story about emotions. They begin to sound out initial letters of their names and familiar words. They smile and tell staff, 'P is for penguin'.

- Children enjoy finding out about their community and other ways of living. For example, they talk with staff about their homes and families. They like to go for walks with staff to the train station. They have great fun on an outing to a local farm, where they see some chickens and enjoy cuddling the guinea pigs and helping to feed the goats.
- Staff support children's communication and language very well. They help babies develop good listening and attention skills. Babies smile and move their bodies when staff sing familiar songs, such as 'Five little ducks go swimming one day'. Older children begin to form longer sentences to express their ideas. They look at pictures of sea creatures and tell staff, 'This is a swordfish' or 'Sharks live under the water.'
- Staff encourage children's awareness of keeping fit and healthy. For example, children enjoy going to the shops with staff to buy healthy toppings for the pizzas they make. They enjoy daily exercise, such as yoga, and like to see how fast they can ride bikes along a path. Staff talk with children about being careful on their outings to the beach. However, they do not extend children's understanding about keeping themselves and others safe consistently well. For example, to help them manage their speed and control more carefully when riding on bikes and push along toys outdoors.
- Children behave very well. Staff use positive reinforcement effectively with children and encourage them to discuss their feelings. Older children show concern when they see a younger friend is tired and upset and sing them a song to help them feel happy.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen teaching to provide appropriate challenges in activities for all children, and sustain their interest and learning consistently well
- develop further ways to encourage children's understanding of keeping themselves and others safe, such as within their outdoor play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY539358
Local authority	Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole
Inspection number	10355228
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 3
Total number of places	35
Number of children on roll	69
Name of registered person	Muddy Boots Nursery School Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP906924
Telephone number	01202 668577
Date of previous inspection	22 November 2018

Information about this early years setting

Muddy Boots Nursery School registered in 2016. It is one of a group of five privately owned settings and operates from premises within Turlin Moor Children's Centre in Poole, Dorset. The setting is open from 8am until 6pm on weekdays throughout the year and provides funded early years education for two-, three- and four-year-olds. There are 11 staff employed at the setting, the majority of whom hold relevant qualifications at level 3 or above. The provider also employs three bank staff.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Mary Daniel

Inspection activities

- The inspector and the manager undertook a learning walk and discussed their curriculum and what they want children to learn.
- The inspector viewed a sample of documentation, such as records of suitability for staff.
- The inspector observed children's interactions in play, indoors and outdoors, and had discussions with staff about children's learning and next steps of development.
- The inspector completed two joint observations of children's activities with the manager and discussed the quality of care and education provided.
- The inspector took into account the written and spoken views of parents.

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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