

Three Bears Nursery

Holt Road, Bovington, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 6LE



Inspection date 21 February 2017
Previous inspection date 31 March 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The management team involves staff well to continually evaluate their practice and make positive improvements. For example, they have reorganised the structure of each session and children's use of play areas. This has helped children develop greater independence, such as in choosing where they play and with which activity.
- Staff form good partnerships with parents and other professionals involved in children's care and well-being. For example, they discuss and follow effective behaviour management strategies together, to provide a consistent approach for children.
- Children interact happily with the friendly, caring staff and respond positively to their questions. Children are relaxed and emotionally secure in the care of staff.
- Staff provide a wide range of exciting activities that motivate children's learning well and give appropriate challenges to support them in making good progress overall.
- Children have good opportunities to develop their physical skills. For example, they have fun learning to balance and walk across the wooden bridge and the tree stumps.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff miss some opportunities to encourage children to solve practical mathematical problems during their play.
- On occasion, staff do not organise some larger group activities or daily routines as well as possible, to successfully encourage younger children to participate and support their learning further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to solve practical problems and develop their mathematical awareness further
- improve the organisation of larger group activities and daily routines to encourage younger children's participation more effectively and support their learning further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff's and children's interactions indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector viewed documentation, such as operational policies, procedures and records of staff suitability checks.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken with at the inspection.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager and discussed children's learning and development.
- The inspector had discussions with the management team, staff and children.

Inspector

Mary Daniel

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Since the last inspection, the management team has worked well to monitor and increase staff's teaching skills effectively and improve outcomes for children. For example, staff attended training that has helped them develop better communication with parents and share ideas for children's learning at home. Staff gather more information from parents about children's abilities to help them plan activities more effectively from the start. Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff update their knowledge of safeguarding and clearly understand their responsibility to protect children's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding of the different ways in which children learn. Staff monitor children's progress closely. They support children's imaginative ideas and awareness of simple technology effectively. For example, older children have great fun styling hair in the hairdresser role-play area. They pretend to use the toy curling tongs and learn to press the buttons on the cash register to open the money drawer. Younger children become absorbed 'cooking' in the mud kitchen outside and tell staff they are making 'mashed potato, pasta and peas'. Staff encourage children's understanding of nature well. For example, children see frogspawn in the pond and know tadpoles will grow into frogs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop a good awareness of keeping fit, safe and healthy. For example, they enjoy a good variety of nutritious snacks and meals. Children meet the visiting police, fire brigade and nurse, who help them learn how to look after themselves and others. Older children begin to take responsibility. For example, they help staff to risk assess the play areas and sweep up spilt sand from the floor to prevent others from slipping. Younger children enjoy cuddles from staff and babble happily, such as when they drink from their bottle, showing that they feel safe and content. Children's behaviour is good. Children learn to be more accepting of the needs of others and how to share toys. Staff frequently praise children and boost their self-esteem well.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain good skills that prepare them well for school. They develop good early reading and writing skills. For example, older children begin to successfully link the sounds and letters of familiar words and gain confidence with their writing, forming some recognisable shapes. Younger children have fun using their hands to make patterns in different textures, such as foam. From a young age, children learn to use language well to describe their ideas. For example, younger children confidently talk about wearing coats and scarves when it is cold. Older children talk about hedgehogs hibernating, and they squeal with delight when they find a worm outside and say it is a 'wiggly worm'.

Setting details

Unique reference number	153471
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	1045427
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	56
Number of children on roll	93
Name of registered person	Three Bears Educare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP909320
Date of previous inspection	31 March 2016
Telephone number	01929 405777

Three Bears Nursery registered in 2004 and is situated in the grounds of Bovington Primary School, in Bovington, Dorset. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 8am until 6pm, for 50 weeks of the year. A breakfast, after-school and holiday club is offered for children of school age. The nursery receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery is run by a committee and employs a team of 16 staff. Of these, the manager holds a childcare qualification at level 5, one member of staff holds a qualification at level 4, nine staff hold qualifications at level 3, three staff hold qualifications at level 2, and two staff are unqualified.

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