

Three Bears Nursery

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



Inspection date 31 March 2016
Previous inspection date 31 July 2013

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Staff are not consistent in their quality of teaching. At times, they engage with the children well. However, on other occasions, children wander aimlessly. Children make steady progress but staff do not challenge children effectively to promote their learning.
- The planning does not always take into account the individual needs of children. For example, during holiday periods, staff do not plan effectively for the pre-school children to enable them to engage in activities to extend their learning.
- Staff do not always gather sufficient information about children's achievements at home to enable them to plan effective learning opportunities when children first attend.

It has the following strengths

- Children benefit from healthy and nutritious meals. These are freshly prepared and take into account children's individual dietary needs and requirements.
- The management team and staff demonstrate a good knowledge of how to safeguard children. They provide a safe and secure environment and have a clear understanding of the procedures to follow in the event of a concern with a child's welfare.
- Staff work well with other early years settings, including schools that children attend, to enable them to have a consistent approach to children's learning.
- The outdoor areas are resourced well and cover all areas of learning. In general, children can move freely between the indoor and outdoor environments, choosing where they would like to play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

	Due Date
■ monitor the quality of teaching effectively to ensure that it is consistent throughout the nursery	01/05/2016
■ review the planning for children in the pre-school unit to make sure that the activities provide sufficient challenge to promote children's learning at all times.	01/05/2016

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

- review the systems to gather information from parents when children initially start to include information about their learning achievements at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a joint observation with management and discussed the findings. In addition, the inspector met with management to discuss daily practice.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at different times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed observations in the playrooms and the outdoor environment.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their views.
- The inspector sampled documentation including staff records, self-evaluation and children's learning records.

Inspector

Lorraine Sparey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. Staff know the procedures to follow in the event of a concern about a child's welfare. There are some appropriate methods to monitor and evaluate the provision, which include the views of the parents and children. Staff attend training and share their learning. However, the manager does not monitor staff practice effectively enough to ensure that the quality of teaching is consistently good. In general, staff build positive relationships with parents. They provide them with opportunities to talk about their children's progress at home. However, the information they gather initially about children's achievements at home does not always help them to plan accurately from the outset.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The quality of teaching is variable. At times, there is good interaction, particularly in the room with children aged two and three years. For example, this age group enjoys 'dough gym' where they mould dough to music and develop their muscles and coordination. However, staff in the baby room do not extend children's learning sufficiently. For example, staff do not consistently talk with them or engage them effectively in activities. Staff complete observations and assessments, and plan the next steps in children's learning. However, this does not happen in the pre-school room during holiday periods. Although staff plan well for children of school age, they do not support the pre-school children to participate, even though they appear eager to join in. There are good methods, overall, to involve parents in their children's ongoing learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children follow good hygiene routines and gain independence in their personal care. In general, children settle quickly and behave well. However, not all children are consistently motivated and interested in their learning. Overall, children are developing their confidence and independence. For example, older children choose to play indoors or in the garden. They enjoy developing their physical skills and understand how to stay safe as they climb and balance.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Overall, children make steady progress in their learning and learn some of the skills they need for school. Children listen with interest as staff encourage them to talk about different objects, identifying the sounds of the letters. Outcomes for children vary across the nursery. At times, children show great interest in activities. For example, children excitedly look for monster footprints in the outside area. However, on other occasions, children do not receive enough support to participate and achieve well in activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	153471
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	1028447
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	48
Number of children on roll	89
Name of provider	Three Bears Educare Limited
Date of previous inspection	31 July 2013
Telephone number	01929 405777

Three Bears Nursery registered in 2004. The nursery operates from Bovington First School, in Bovington, Dorset. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, for 50 weeks of the year. A breakfast, after school and holiday club is offered for children of school age. The nursery is run by a committee and employs a team of 18 staff. One member of staff has achieved Early Years Professional Status, and all except five members of staff are qualified in early years.

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