

The Boat House Day Nursery

Town Lane, Dukinfield, Cheshire, SK16 4BX



Inspection date	26 January 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Leaders, managers and practitioners work hard to achieve the best possible outcomes for children. Children make good progress. They show that they feel safe and happy in the care of the attentive practitioners.
- Leaders demonstrate a strong commitment to improving the provision. They support practitioners to gain further qualifications. They provide training that extends the knowledge and skills of practitioners.
- The key-person system is effective. Parents welcome the daily reports they receive about children's care and the day's events. They feel that children are being prepared well to start school. For example, older children walk in a line to the dining room and confidently carry their lunch plates to the table.
- Practitioners observe children's learning and accurately assess their progress.
- Children's safety is promoted well. For example, children with allergies to certain foods are kept safe because everyone adheres rigorously to routines for preparing and serving food.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although managers regularly monitor the performance of practitioners, they do not focus sharply enough on raising the quality of teaching to exceptional levels.
- Some practitioners do not organise the indoor environment for pre-school children well enough to deepen their thinking and challenge them to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the monitoring of the performance of practitioners and focus more sharply on helping them to raise the quality of teaching to the highest level
- support pre-school children more effectively to promote their thinking and learning to the highest level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors. She assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with practitioners and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the area manager and the nursery manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of practitioners working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Susan King

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Managers know the procedure to follow if an allegation is made against a member of the team. The nursery building is secure and practitioners identify and minimise hazards to children effectively. As a result, children play and explore safely. The well-qualified practitioners are keen to enhance their professional skills. For example, practitioners new to working with babies used what they learned at training to review the organisation of the room and equipment. They now think more carefully about which toys they put out each day and why. As a result, teaching is planned more precisely to promote what individual children need to learn next.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Practitioners use what they know about children's progress to plan activities that help to extend their learning. For example, toddlers are learning the words for parts of the body and practitioners use books and pictures to help them. Toddlers deepen their knowledge and understanding even further when they wiggle and shake different parts of their bodies to music. Practitioners promote children's early literacy effectively. For example, younger children listen with enjoyment to favourite stories. They begin to remember the sequence of events and join in eagerly with repeated phrases and actions. Pre-school children learn to read some familiar words, including their own names.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Practitioners are friendly and welcoming and this helps children to settle in and thrive. Children follow consistent routines and this helps them to learn to respect other people. For example, pre-school children know that they must wait for their turn to pick a nursery rhyme card out of the bag, at group time. Practitioners teach children to be safe. For instance, they remind children who are playing hide and seek to be careful not to bang their heads when they hide under the tables. Practitioners implement policies and procedures that help to promote children's welfare. For example, they share important information about accidents and incidents with parents.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are eager learners who acquire the skills, knowledge and attitudes to learning that prepare them well to start school. Children know that written numerals and words carry meaning. They count and use numbers as part of activities and routines. For example, children cover their eyes and count out loud while they wait for their friends to hide. Children develop problem-solving skills. For example, they try different ways to propel the football up the slope in the outdoor area. Children know that they must wear coats to stay warm and healthy when the weather is cold. They develop independence in using the toilet and always wash their hands before they eat.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY495368
Local authority	Tameside
Inspection number	1034362
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	150
Number of children on roll	109
Name of registered person	Kids Zone Dukinfield Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP535021
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	0161 330 7704

The Boat House Day Nursery registered in 2015. The nursery employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 6, one holds a qualification at level 5, one at level 4, 10 at level 3 and two at level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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