

Inspection of Tots Pre School

Mobile Classroom c/o Bewbush First School, Dorsten Square, Bewbush, Crawley,
West Sussex RH11 8XW

Inspection date: 23 April 2025

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

The provision is good

Staff arrange an inviting environment that stimulates children's interest and engagement in their learning. They review the organisation of the environment regularly to ensure that it continues to support children's learning. They recognise that most children prefer to spend time in the garden, so they ensure that they have access to a variety of learning experiences both inside and outside. Children freely spend time investigating their surroundings, such as looking for bugs in the digging area. They engage confidently with staff and proudly show them their discoveries. Staff encourage them to see how many different bugs they can find. Children observe each bug with fascination, and they talk to staff about what they are doing. This enables children to learn about the natural world.

Staff know children well and have successfully identified what they want them to learn next. This enables them to use additional funding effectively to ensure that children benefit from a rich set of experiences that promotes their ongoing progress. For instance, staff have identified that children need support to develop their attention skills. Leaders have used this information to ensure that all children have opportunities to take part in sports activities led by an external company. Children eagerly take part and learn to follow the instructions that the coaches give them. This also helps children to develop their coordination and large muscle skills, which builds on their physical well-being.

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

- Leaders notified Ofsted of a breach in relation to their accident procedures. The notification means that the provider met their legal responsibility to notify Ofsted of significant events. Leaders had not ensured that the procedures for managing accidents were robust, which resulted in incorrect information being shared with parents. However, leaders have reviewed and improved their accident policies and procedures, which has been shared with all staff. Ofsted are satisfied with the steps that leaders have taken to address this breach. Therefore, Ofsted will not be taking any further action in relation to this.
- Leaders have designed an ambitious curriculum that aims to support all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, to make good progress. Leaders and staff have good knowledge of all children who attend the setting. This enables them to identify what they want children to learn next and plan for their continued learning.
- Leaders have formed a strong team with their staff. They support staff well in their professional development and well-being by giving them feedback on their practice and offering them regular one-to-one meetings. As such, staff enjoy working at the setting and have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities.

- Staff plan a range of exciting and interesting activities for children. This includes organising water play experiences with different resources. Children show a good attitude to learning as they eagerly take part and play with the different animals and objects. As children explore the water tray, staff talk to them about how to keep themselves safe when they go to the beach. This supports children to learn how to manage risks. However, on occasion, staff do not always consider how to develop these opportunities to support children to extend their learning further. For instance, staff are sometimes too quick to give children the answers during conversations, which does not fully enable them to develop their critical thinking skills. At these times, children do not benefit from teaching that builds on what they already know and can do.
- Overall, children receive teaching to help them to develop their language skills. For example, staff introduce new words to children during focused adult-led activities, such as describing the stones as feeling 'smooth'. They encourage children to repeat these words back, which helps them to practise saying new words. However, sometimes staff do not always use questioning well to enable children to share their thoughts and ideas in order to further develop their speaking skills. At other times, staff do not encourage children to remove comforters from their mouths, which stops them joining in verbally during group times. This does not provide children with consistent support to develop their communication skills.
- Leaders and staff are prompt to identify any delays in children's progress. They work in partnership with parents and other agencies to ensure that appropriate information is shared. This helps them to work together to support children's ongoing progress.

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:

- support staff to build on their interactions to more fully extend children's knowledge and skills during their play
- strengthen staff's understanding of how to support children's language development further

Setting details

Unique reference number	113796
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	10393923
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	2 to 4
Total number of places	68
Number of children on roll	64
Name of registered person	Tots Pre-School
Registered person unique reference number	RP910879
Telephone number	07811914153 or 01293 611799
Date of previous inspection	29 June 2021

Information about this early years setting

Tots Pre School registered in 1990 and operates from a purpose-built unit in the grounds of Bewbush Primary School, Crawley, West Sussex. It is open each weekday from 9am to 3.15pm during term time only. There are 12 members of staff, 10 of whom hold an early years qualification at level 3. The pre-school provides funded early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Hayley Kiely

Inspection activities

- The deputy manager, manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Staff spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual about the leadership and management of the setting.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out joint observations of a group activity with the manager.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.

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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