

Norton Daycare LTD

Norton House & School, Norton Canon, HEREFORD, HR4 7BH



Inspection date

28 January 2015

Previous inspection date

11 August 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff plan a broad range of activities for children which supports them to make good progress in their learning and ensures they are well prepared for their eventual move on to school.
- Staff are caring and kind and children form strong relationships with them. This means children's individual needs are well met and children feel secure in their care.
- Children follow good hygiene routines. They enjoy healthy snacks and meals, which promotes their good health.
- Children enjoy fresh air and exercise, because they have regular access to an interesting outdoor area.
- Good partnerships between parents and the nursery staff ensures that parents are kept well-informed about their child's progress and care routines.
- The nursery's leadership team demonstrates a strong commitment to improving the quality of care and teaching by reflecting on their practice and implementing action plans.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Younger children do not always benefit fully from quality, focused support because they do not spend enough time with their key person or key group.
- Children with limited communication and language skills sometimes become frustrated because staff do not always understand what they would like to play with.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enable key persons to spend more time with their key children and key groups, for example, by allocating a specific time and area where focused support can take place
- consider ways for children with limited communication and language skills to make their preferences more easily known to staff, for example, by providing visual prompts.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the nursery with the deputy manager and registered person.
- The inspector observed teaching and learning activities in the indoor and outdoor learning environment.
- The inspector looked at a sample of policies, children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working with children and the nursery's self-evaluation form.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, staff and parents spoken to on the day of inspection.

Inspector

Tina Smith

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Staff plan play activities around the children's interests, which are varied and cover all areas of learning. Children are focussed and engaged because staff allow them time to play and experiment. Staff looking after the babies provide them with lots of sensory experiences. Staff sit alongside to offer support, encouragement and praise. Pre-school children enjoy using real plasters and bandages as they pretend to be doctors in the role play area. Staff make good use of opportunities to repeat children's language and introduce new words. As a result, children are making good progress in their communication and language skills. A range of activities helps them develop their reading and writing skills ready for starting school. At times, staff are not always aware of what children want to play with because children with limited communication and language skills cannot make their preferences known to them. Planning and assessment arrangements are good and regularly shared with parents.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

The environment is warm and welcoming with a variety of resources in all rooms, which are easily accessible to the children. Children are settled, content and enjoy trusting relationships with their key person who offer them lots of cuddles, praise and reassurance. However, key persons do not always plan time with their key children so that focussed support can take place. Children enjoy playing outdoors in a secure area and have access to a Forest School site where they enjoy sensory experiences and develop safety skills. Children's individual dietary needs are met because the nursery provides wholesome home-cooked meals and snacks. Staff treat children with kindness and respect and make boundaries clear. As a result, children understand what is expected of them and behave well. Staff have a secure understanding of their responsibilities to safeguard children. Safeguarding practice and policies are discussed at regular staff meetings, which supports children's health, safety and well-being.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The improvements made since the last inspection have been effective. Action plans are set and reviewed on a monthly basis. The leadership team have established effective systems to ensure both the safeguarding and welfare, and the learning and development requirements are well known by all staff and effectively met in practice. All records required for the efficient management of the nursery are in place and all staff have a current Disclosure and Barring Service check. Staff receive regular supervisions and are encouraged to continue with their professional development. The qualifications held by staff, and their secure understanding of how children learn is a key factor in the good quality teaching. Staff keep parents well informed about their child's progress and partnerships with other settings are also good. Effective systems for planning and assessment result in children having good quality care and learning opportunities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY440847
Local authority	Herefordshire
Inspection number	987421
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	24
Name of provider	Norton Daycare Ltd
Date of previous inspection	11 August 2014
Telephone number	01544 318373

Norton Daycare Ltd was registered in 2011. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and a week over the Christmas period. Sessions are from 7am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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