

Tots Junction

Grimshaw Lane, Middleton,, Manchester, Lancs., M24 2AT



Inspection date

9 June 2015

Previous inspection date

14 February 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 have a very good understanding of the learning and development requirements and their planning reflects children's interests and learning needs. As a result, the children make consistently good progress in relation to their starting points.
- The established key-person system means children form secure emotional attachments as staff effectively support children's care and play. Consequently, children feel safe and comfortable in the nursery environment.
- Staff have a very good knowledge and understanding of their responsibility to safeguard children, which is supported by regularly reviewing training and policies. This means children's safety is a priority.
- There are effective partnerships with parents to share information and support children's learning at home. Staff establish good relationships with schools and external professionals. This effectively promotes continuity in children's care and learning.
- Leadership and management demonstrate a proactive approach to deliver a high-quality provision. There are effective systems to monitor and drive ongoing improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- While the outdoor area is stimulating, it does not have the same level of learning opportunities to promote children's mathematical skills that are available indoors.
- Staff do not always extend children's thinking skills by using challenging and effective questioning techniques.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the outdoor area to promote children's mathematical skills further by using mathematics in a wider range of contexts
- extend children's abilities and thinking skills through the use of more challenging and effective questioning techniques.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed learning activities, both indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector conducted joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of some parents.

Inspector

Farzana Iqbal

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching in the nursery is good that means all children make consistently good progress from their starting points. Staff provide babies and children with a wide range of freely accessible and developmentally appropriate resources. They effectively plan stimulating activities for individual and groups of children that cover all the areas of learning. Children are self-motivated and confident, which means they are well prepared for the next stage in their learning, such as school. Children are encouraged to problem solve during a water activity, they make informed guesses about objects floating and sinking in the water, as a result, children learn about weight and size. However, at times staff do not encourage children's thinking skills by using effective questioning techniques. Children's communication and listening skills are highly supported. For example, children learn the names of new animals, as they listen and identify different sounds. Children's counting skills are reinforced during activities and routines. However, on occasions staff do not extend or challenge children's mathematical learning in wider contexts through more effective use of the outdoor environment. Staff regularly share information about children's achievements and parents contribute to children's assessments and planning; promoting children's continuity of learning.

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

Staff encourage healthy eating practices and oral health through a local health scheme. Children enjoy freshly cooked nutritious meals and fruit for snacks. Staff discuss the benefits of being strong and healthy which means children have a good awareness of the importance of healthy lifestyles. Staff engage children well in conversations and social skills are well supported during mealtimes. Children are wonderfully supported through a well-embedded key-person system; this successfully promotes their emotional well-being and self-esteem. Children benefit from daily opportunities for fresh air and exercise through apparatus and activities outdoors.

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

The manager demonstrates a good understanding of the requirements for the Early Years Foundation Stage. Most staff hold a relevant qualification at level 3 and the manager has completed a level 6 qualification since the last inspection. This, together with training, contributes to the good quality provision. There is a range of detailed policies and procedures, and staff demonstrate a secure understanding of safeguarding procedures. The manager and staff are committed to providing an effective service to children and families. They effectively monitor children's progress and the quality of the provision to identify targets for improvement. This shows continuous commitment to improve the nursery. The leader makes appropriate links with external professionals, which contribute to meeting children's needs. Effective partnerships with parents and schools help support children's move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	316467
Local authority	Rochdale
Inspection number	868367
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	37
Number of children on roll	49
Name of provider	Dawn Walters
Date of previous inspection	14 February 2011
Telephone number	0161 655 3262

Tots Junction was registered in 1998. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. Nine members of staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and 3. The manager has completed a Degree in Early Years. 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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