

Inspection of Mama Bear's Day Nursery

St. Margarets School, Barewell Road, TORQUAY TQ1 4PA

Inspection date: 5 October 2022

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
------------------------------	--------------------

The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

There is a clear curriculum intent. Staff are extremely knowledgeable in resourcing the environment to extend learning. Opportunities for new learning to be practised and remembered are provided. For example, children are immersed in enjoyable number-based activities through stories shared, actions performed, exploring objects, counting cups at snack time and counting fruit and vegetables in their play. Children readily explore this mathematical knowledge with confidence and excitement. When counting fruit, children exclaim, 'I have the most' and, 'I have more than you because I got three and you have two.' Staff ensure both the indoor and outdoor environments are engaging and help develop children's abilities to solve problems.

Children and staff have excellent relationships with each other that fully support learning and development. Staff have high expectations for every child and the children all thrive. Staff show warmth and understanding and strive to ensure they meet every need of every child. Children feel safe and secure in the environment. Children are enthusiastic to learn and are confident exploring resources independently. The environment is carefully thought about by staff and it supports children to flourish in their play. Resources are set out by staff to develop curiosity in children. For example, children excitedly play with various flower petals in their water play while concocting potions. Staff are commendable role models, which results in children showing superb behaviour, where they are consistently kind and considerate of each other.

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

- The staff are passionate about the care they provide and they continually reflect on their provision. This results in children receiving access to varied and engaging learning experiences. The manager values and celebrates the knowledge of staff while ensuring they can access support and training that will only further enhance their skills. For example, there is a culture of staff learning from each other's best practice.
- Staff prepare children for their next stage of learning. Children share ideas and opinions, and they are sensitively responded to by staff. This results in children being self-motivated learners. Staff progress learning superbly, providing lots of opportunities to revisit learning. For example, children practise listening skills by playing a familiar game. This results in children showing confidence and skill.
- Children show fantastic levels of independence. The staff skilfully support the self-care skill of toileting by valuing and encouraging efforts in independence and only offering physical support when needed. This results in resilient children who demonstrate a will to succeed unaided.
- Children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, make

excellent progress. Early years pupil premium funding is used to support children effectively with their next steps in learning.

- The quality of teaching is exceptional. Staff know children exceptionally well and meet every child's needs effectively, resulting in excellent outcomes for children. Staff create learning opportunities tailored to the age and stage of children. They adapt their level of support or grouping of children to appropriately meet children's needs. What children know, understand, remember and recall is excellent.
- Children are extremely confident communicators. Staff provide an environment that is language rich and supports children's growing vocabulary and understanding. Staff purposefully use new words when playing with children and children show confidence using the vocabulary independently. For example, when performing stories, staff use story language effectively. After a story is animatedly shared, children continue the story and 'fly' outside, running after each other saying, 'Is there room on the broom for me?'
- Children understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle. Staff support this by discussing why fruit and vegetables are important to eat, why it is important to spend some time outside and why healthy eating at snack time and lunchtime is important. Oral health is taught through daily toothbrushing and children are enthusiastic to participate and show great knowledge about the purpose of keeping healthy.
- Parent partnership is impressive and impacts positively on the learning and development of children. The setting is a real support to families, and parents feel staff know the needs of their children very well.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The setting has an effective culture of safeguarding. Staff have up-to-date training and show excellent understanding of their role in protecting children from harm. The management team has rigorous recruitment and vetting protocols which are followed when employing new staff to ensure new recruits are suitable. Staff have an excellent knowledge of the indicators that may show a child is at risk of abuse. They are very clear on how to respond to these signs and how to report concerns. Staff understand it is everyone's responsibility to keep children safe. The setting has effective entry and exit procedures that ensure children are safe and secure.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY450381
Local authority	Torbay
Inspection number	10233845
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	51
Name of registered person	Mama Bear's Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP901325
Telephone number	01803 316511
Date of previous inspection	6 December 2016

Information about this early years setting

Mama Bear's Day Nursery registered in 2012 and is one of 23 nurseries in a privately owned chain. It operates within the grounds of St. Margaret's Academy in Torquay, Devon. It opens Monday to Friday, from 7.30am to 7pm, all year round. The setting receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years. There are 11 members of staff working with children. Of these, one holds an early years qualification at level 7, two hold qualifications at level 4, seven hold level 3 qualifications and one is an apprentice.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Shirley Evel

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Children spoke to the inspector about what they enjoy doing while at the setting.
- The inspector spoke with the manager about the leadership and management of the setting.
- The special educational needs coordinator spoke to the inspector about how they support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity with the manager.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2022