

Tots And Scholars Preschool And Nursery

The Liberal Synagogue, Old School, High Street, Borehamwood, WD6 3EY



Inspection date	23 May 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The highly qualified staff have high expectations of what children can achieve. They know children extraordinarily well through comprehensive assessments of children's skills and work with the inspirational manager to track and monitor their progress.
- The key-person system is highly effective. Staff are astute in engaging parents in sharing information on how to comfort children. They offer a range of strategies, such as home visits, play and settling-in sessions, to help children transition from home to nursery. Staff are exceptionally nurturing and children flourish in their care.
- Staff are outstanding role models. They value each child and enthusiastically praise their efforts and achievements. Children take pride in helping staff during routines and actively participate in discussions. They build strong bonds with staff and peers. They are kind and extremely caring towards each other. Children behave exceptionally well.
- The highly dedicated manager and staff show an excellent drive to achieving the highest possible standards of care and learning for children. Teaching and care practices are closely monitored and staff benefit from excellent opportunities for training, which they use exceptionally well to contribute to children's outstanding learning.
- Children's safety is staff's utmost priority. Staff complete meticulous risk assessments of the premises which involve children completing their own safety checks of toys, rooms and the garden. Children have an impressive awareness of personal safety.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the excellent partnerships already in place with other settings that children attend, to ensure that all settings engage in providing highly effective continuity in children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and interacted with all children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed two joint observations with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the nursery manager and the provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working at the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and also took account of their views through written feedback.

Inspector

Karina Hemerling

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff are extremely confident about the steps to follow should any concerns about a child or other adults arise. Staff's suitability is monitored regularly and up-to-date policies are shared with staff and parents. The highly committed staff show an uncompromising dedication to raising outcomes for children. They use innovative ways to work with parents, such as workshops, open days and regular questionnaires to exchange information. Staff have high standards and identify the capacity to build further on the already excellent links with other settings that children attend, to ensure all providers contribute to children's exceptional learning. Children thrive in a safe environment.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff are passionate about children's progress and tailor all play opportunities available to cater for children's unique talents and interests. They inspire children to learn. For example, staff have a 'fairy' mascot, who lives in the garden and travels to bring children news and items from around the world. Children have inspirational opportunities to learn about other countries and festivals. Staff are expert in extending children's learning and children show extraordinary confidence in expressing their views. For example, they use highly sophisticated mathematical vocabulary as they explore a sinking and floating activity with coloured rocks and blocks of ice.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are extremely happy at the nursery and build close friendships. They are excellent at sharing and cooperating with each other. For example, young children take turns as they play the lead character during an amazing interactive story with props. Children have exciting experiences outdoors. For example, they pretend to be farmers, dig and explore ways of using two bales of hay. Children compare empty and full bottles of milk and separate toy animals into groups. They play an active part in their community. For example, children attend art lessons at a local nursing home and visit the chemist each week to replenish first-aid kits. Staff are extremely sensitive to children's well-being and teach them the importance of exercising and eating well in order to be healthy.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children have first-class support and make outstanding progress. This includes those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Children show impressive concentration and great literacy skills. For example, they are eager to learn the sounds of letters and are highly skilled in spelling and writing simple words. Children benefit from a flawless balance of child-led and adult-led activities. For example, when children find two little slugs in the garden, they work with staff to research and create a special area for them in the garden. Children securely develop the skills they will need for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY497962
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1039351
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	45
Number of children on roll	52
Name of registered person	Tots And Scholars Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP905047
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	0203 4172980/07501218646

Tots And Scholars Preschool And Nursery registered in 2016. The setting employs 14 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2 and above. The setting opens Monday to Friday, all year round, apart from Jewish festivals, Christmas and bank holidays. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The settings offers funded education to two-, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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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