

Best practice

Toy Box Nursery, Deeside College, Connah's Quay



Rhagoriaeth i bawb - Excellence for all

Arolygiaeth Ei Mawrhydi dros Addysg
a Hyfforddiant yng Nghymru

Her Majesty's Inspectorate
for Education and Training in Wales



Context

Toy Box is a registered day nursery situated within the grounds of Deeside College in Connah's Quay, North Wales. The nursery provides care and education for children from three months up to five years on a full or part-time basis. At the time of the inspection, 36 part-time 3-year-olds were attending the playgroup.

Improving quality was identified as sector-leading practice (3.2)

What is the setting doing about improving quality that is sector-leading?

The quality of self-evaluation in the setting was judged as excellent. A strong partnership exists between all stakeholders and staff are valued and well-trained. These are key factors in the setting's success.

Self-evaluation is ongoing, systematic and considers the views of a good range of partners, including children and parents and carers. First-rate communication between everyone involved with the setting contributes to a good understanding of the setting's strengths and areas for development. Everyone's views are considered and acted upon wherever possible. Practitioners, for instance, consult children about what they want to learn. Children

regularly input ideas and suggestions into day-to-day planning as well as longer-term planning. The inclusive nature of the setting's approach to self-evaluation is a strong feature and impacts positively on the quality and consistency of children's learning experiences and their standards. Action planning is based on a comprehensive knowledge of the setting; it documents any changes that need to be made and the resources needed to make change happen.

Staff professional development is given high priority. Practitioners regularly attend Foundation Phase training, including workshops and drop-in sessions provided by the local authority. They work well with the local authority support officer to improve practice and are quick to take on any suggestions. As a result, staff are well-informed about current good practice and are well-placed to question what they do and how to make things better.

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