

Highfield Day Care Centre

C/O Highfield Primary School, Whinfield Road, Rowlands Gill, Tyne and Wear, NE39 1EH



Inspection date

5 August 2015

Previous inspection date

15 May 2012

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 are well qualified and effectively deployed throughout the nursery. They successfully plan and provide a very good range of activities and experiences that are exciting, stimulating and challenging for all children. This helps children make good progress towards the early learning goals.
- Staff work very closely with parents, carers and other professionals to ensure the needs of all children are effectively met. Information is shared consistently and parents' contributions and comments are highly valued. This supports continuity in learning.
- Safeguarding children takes a high priority in the setting. Staff are vigilant at all times, and risk assessments are completed and reviewed regularly. All staff undergo suitability checks before commencing work. They have regular supervision meetings to ensure the quality of work is maintained to a high standard.
- The leadership and management team shows a strong commitment to improve outcomes for all children. There are effective systems in place to monitor and evaluate all aspects of the provision and continually make improvements to benefit children.
- Staff manage children's behaviour well. They help children gain a sense of belonging and learn about acceptable boundaries. This contributes to children developing positive attitudes and gaining the key skills, ready for their next stage in learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff in the baby room do not fully extend children's development of their larger physical skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more support and opportunities that help babies and the younger children to strengthen their larger muscles and develop their coordination, balance and mobility further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the nursery, meeting staff and children as they worked and played.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation and held a meeting with the nursery manager.
- The inspector observed activities indoors and outside.
- The inspector held conversations with parents and carers, taking their views into account.
- The inspector viewed a wide range of documentation, including children's files and assessments, relevant policies and procedures and the setting's self-evaluation form.

Inspector

Janice Caryl

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 is very good and older children are prepared well for moving on to school. The range of resources throughout the nursery is rich and varied. These stimulate children to explore, experiment and be independent in their play. Staff effectively maintain children's interests as they teach them about growing and new life. They maintain good eye-contact as, together with the children, they look at books and point to the words and pictures. Children are supported in learning that print carries meaning. Staff promote learning in mathematics by encouraging children to count. Staff teach children to recognise their names. They use children's emergent writing on displays, valuing and respecting their contributions. Staff in the baby room encourage children to use tools to help them develop their smaller hand and finger muscles. They provide inviting sensory opportunities, igniting children's natural curiosity. Staff provide equipment and resources to support children in developing their physical skills through climbing, crawling and balancing. Staff do not always give the younger children the time and attention to practise these skills further, particularly those who show an avid desire to climb.

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

Children throughout the nursery show their strong bonds and attachments to staff. Babies are given ample emotional support when settling in. Staff understand their needs well and ensure they remain safe, secure and comfortable at all times. Overall, staff teach children about the importance of hand washing and maintaining good hygiene routines. Staff teach older children how to wash their hands thoroughly, helping them learn about cross-contamination. Nutritious and healthy meals and snacks are provided and promote children's good health. Children are encouraged to be independent. Older children are competent at serving themselves and pouring their own drinks. Children learn to develop a sense of responsibility as they help with daily tasks. They move up through nursery and on to school with confidence. Staff take effective steps to ensure children are well prepared for these changes, including building the excellent links with schools.

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

The manager is passionate and committed to maintaining continuous improvement. Leaders and managers have taken immediate action to ensure policies and procedures are strictly adhered to, including the outings policy. Risk assessments are reviewed and updated to minimise all potential hazards to children. This includes risk assessing other places used for any visits. The manager works closely with staff and parents to ensure that assessments of children's learning are accurate and precise. This tracking helps to identify any children who may need extra support and close gaps in development. The manager ensures staff's practice effectively supports the needs of all children. The whole team are committed and dedicated to improving their skills through training and further research. This has a positive impact on their practice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY434362
Local authority	Gateshead
Inspection number	853521
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	45
Name of provider	4 Children
Date of previous inspection	15 May 2012
Telephone number	01132 427050

Highfield Day Care Centre was registered in 2011. The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. Three staff, including the manager, hold relevant qualifications at level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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