

The Cleveland Unit, James Cook University Hospital

Marton Road, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS4 3BW



Inspection date

16 July 2015

Previous inspection date

27 April 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children are happy and enjoy superb relationships with their friends and staff. They experience a rich variety of interesting and suitably challenging activities that are carefully planned and children are making excellent progress, in relation to their starting points.
- All staff are passionate and knowledgeable about the work they do. The staff show enthusiasm and an excellent understanding of how children learn, which enables all children to thrive in this vibrant and nurturing nursery.
- The nursery has highly effective arrangements in place to work in partnership with parents, multi-agency workers and other settings, in order to support children and their families.
- All staff receive excellent ongoing training in child protection and safeguarding issues and know what to do should they have any concerns about a child's welfare. Children are extremely safe as a result of robust recruitment measures and well-implemented policies and procedures.
- Management and staff implement highly effective methods to monitor and evaluate the provision. They involve parents and children in the process to make sure their views are listened to and to influence changes to the provision.
- Staff are positive role models, which supports children in learning the boundaries and expectations from an early age. This prepares them very well for their next stage in learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider extending the excellent opportunities for children to communicate with staff.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching children in the playrooms, gardens and soft play area.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the headteacher and held a meeting with her.
- The inspector checked the evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children and the provider's procedures for evaluating their practice.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times and took into account the views of the parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning, and at how parents are involved in this process.

Inspector

Lynne Pope

Inspection findings

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

Staff are highly qualified and this results in the quality of teaching across all areas of learning being consistently high. Staff use rigorous observation and assessment methods that highlight the excellent progress that children make, and quickly identify areas where they are not developing. As a result, help is secured and staff ensure that any gaps in their learning can be narrowed quickly. Children are provided with an excellent range of high-quality, innovative and interesting resources, and activities in the nursery. This ensures that children's interests are maintained, and used to promote their further learning. In preparation for trips into the local community staff implement a wide variety of activities that help children to learn about what they will see and, therefore, maximise their learning potential. Staff use excellent methods to help children develop their communication and language skills. They have highly effective methods to support children who speak English as an additional language, and children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. There is room to extend these excellent methods into everyday activities to promote communication further.

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

Children thrive as a result of the exemplary care they receive and they have a wonderful time in this stimulating nursery. Staff know the children really well and understand their individual needs as they collect comprehensive information from parents and any other professional involved with children, when children start. This ensures children settle quickly and form strong attachments to staff, which supports their well-being. Children's independence is promoted throughout the nursery. They are encouraged to make choices in their play, and to be independent in everyday routines. This helps children to gradually develop the skills they require in readiness for school. Staff enthusiastically promote healthy lifestyles and the importance of exercise. Children engage in physical activities both indoors and outside, and use their senses to explore and learn about the world around them.

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

The nursery provides a highly effective learning environment and promotes all aspects of learning and welfare to a high standard. The nursery is managed extremely well by a strong and motivational management team who continually strive for excellence in the delivery of care and education for all children. Staff are inspired to provide high-quality care and education and management monitor children's overall progress to ensure any gaps in achievements are identified and addressed. Highly effective supervision of staff's performance ensures they continuously review their practice, which drives improvement. Staff work in partnership and communicate with other settings children attend, and schools that children will move on to. Teachers visit the nursery and staff visit the new setting with children. This helps to prepare children emotionally for the move when the time comes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY277385
Local authority	Middlesbrough
Inspection number	848624
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	52
Name of provider	Middlesbrough Borough Council
Date of previous inspection	27 April 2010
Telephone number	01642 854288

The Cleveland Unit, James Cook University Hospital was registered in 2004. The assessment nursery is for children with complex needs and/or disabilities. The assessment nursery employs 24 members of childcare staff. Of these, 21 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above, including four staff with Qualified Teacher Status and two at level 2. The assessment nursery opens in term time only, on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, from 9am until 2.30pm. The Joint Education Therapy group runs on Wednesdays for two hours in the morning or afternoon. The assessment nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. It supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, and those who speak English as an additional language.

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