

Zone 4 Kids

Whitley Lodge First School, Claremont Road, Whitley Bay, Tyne & Wear, NE26 3TX



Inspection date

17 May 2018

Previous inspection date

28 July 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 inspirational leadership team is dedicated to providing exceptionally high-quality care and education for all children. Managers and staff reflect carefully on their practice. They take into account the views of parents and children when making any changes.
- Staff are excellent role models and provide clear boundaries and high expectations of children in all age ranges. They shower children with praise that relates precisely to their actions. This helps to support their superb understanding and exemplary behaviour.
- Partnership work with parents is extremely effective. Parents speak very positively about the progress their children make at the setting, particularly in the development of their confidence and social skills. Staff successfully use a wide range of methods of communication to keep parents exceptionally well informed about how children's learning can be supported at home.
- The well-qualified and experienced staff provide each child with an individually tailored plan to help meet their specific learning goals. Children make rapid progress in every area of their learning and show wonderful levels of enthusiasm throughout all activities.
- The warm and caring staff know the children in their care particularly well. Children develop secure attachments with staff and form firm friendships with each other. They thoroughly enjoy their time at the setting.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider enhancing strategies to strengthen the excellent links established with other early years providers attended by children at the setting.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities, both indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact of this on outcomes for children.
- The inspector spoke to managers, staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including evidence of the suitability of staff working at the setting.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Cathryn Clarricoates

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The management team demonstrates a comprehensive knowledge of how young children learn. Their passion and vision are shared across the staff team, which works tirelessly to help children achieve the best outcomes. Managers monitor staff performance carefully and identify training linked to developmental priorities. Staff value the support they receive from managers and each other. This helps them to improve their practice continuously. Safeguarding is effective. All staff regularly update their knowledge of how to identify any concerns about the children in their care and the correct procedures to follow. Managers are considering how to build on the excellent partnership working with other settings.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff use feedback from parents, and knowledge of children's interests, to inform planning for a wealth of engaging experiences. Children delight in exploring a wide range of exciting materials that stimulates their senses. For example, they make marks in gloop, foam, sand and paint on a variety of different surfaces, indoors and outdoors. Staff encourage babies and young children to investigate, for example, by tasting citrus fruits. They sing to the youngest children during routines and encourage older children to join in enthusiastically with familiar rhymes and refrains from their favourite books. Staff use visual cue cards to engage children during group activities. This helps to support the development of children's excellent communication and early literacy skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Parents comment that staff consistently excel in meeting the individual needs of their children and providing support to their families. Children of all ages enjoy looking at photographs of their parents at work and of themselves at special family events and on outings. This helps children to have a very strong sense of belonging and of being highly valued. Children are extremely settled and secure. Three-year-olds look at themselves in a mirror and talk about the way they feel. This helps them to recognise these feelings and understand similarities and differences between themselves and others. Children are exceptionally kind and respectful towards others. They benefit daily from exciting physical activities in the well-resourced outdoor play areas and from nutritionally balanced meals.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children across the age ranges develop an excellent range of skills to help prepare them for their future learning, such as the eventual move to school. They relish completing simple tasks to keep the play environment safe, including tidying away toys and resources after play activities. Children have many opportunities to practise their early mathematics skills throughout daily routines. For example, they learn to solve problems as they work out how many knives and forks are needed to set the tables for lunch.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY277713
Local authority	North Tyneside
Inspection number	1104162
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	205
Name of registered person	Tynemouth Nursery Group Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP521965
Date of previous inspection	28 July 2014
Telephone number	0191 251 6509

Zone 4 Kids registered in 2004. The setting employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one with a degree in early childhood studies. The setting opens Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year, from 7.45am to 6pm. It provides funded early years education for two-, three- and four-year old children.

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