

Kenton Park Nursery School



5 Kenton Park Centre, Kenton Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear, NE3 4RU

Inspection date

9 March 2015

Previous inspection date

5 July 2010

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

- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are very well supported through highly effective partnerships with parents, external agencies and services.
- Effective systems are in place to observe and assess children's learning. This gives staff knowledge about children's current stage of development and enables them to plan appropriate activities to challenge them and extend their learning even further.
- Parents take an active part in their child's learning. They are kept well informed of the progress their child is making and are encouraged to support and share examples of their child's learning at home.
- Staff provide familiar and predictable routines, such as tidying up, and make them an enjoyable part of each day. As a result, children's behaviour is excellent and they are well aware of expectations within the nursery.
- Staff are well qualified and have good knowledge of how to promote and support children's learning and development. As a result, children learn the required skills and knowledge needed for school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Opportunities to support older children's already good expressive language skills and talk for a wider range of purposes are not always maximised.
- There are times when staff implement lengthy routines to protect children's clothing and interrupt the flow of their play. Consequently, children are not always able to follow their own interests and engage spontaneously in activities, such as water play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for older children to talk for a wider range of purposes in order to enhance their expressive language skills, for example, by encouraging them to share their own observations and ideas
- reflect on the organisation of water play activities to ensure children are able to follow their interests and pursue their own learning spontaneously without lengthy routines interrupting their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all parts of the nursery accessed by children, including the outdoor environment.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children and looked at and discussed self-evaluation with the manager and deputy manager.
- The inspector observed teaching and learning activities in all rooms in the nursery.
- The inspector carried out a meeting with the manager and deputy manager of the nursery and discussed a range of policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to during the inspection.

Inspector

Nicola Jones

Inspection findings

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

Teaching is consistently good and some practice is outstanding. Where practice is strong, staff make excellent use of singing to support children's learning. Key messages from training are disseminated effectively to all staff. This has a positive impact on the quality of teaching, and singing is promoted extremely well at all times. Older children enjoy learning about the natural world. They look at models and photographs of tadpoles and frogs, listening well when staff explain changes that happen over time. This supports children's expressive language skills and they extend their vocabulary by exploring the meaning of new words. However, there is scope to enhance children's good communication skills even further by encouraging them to talk about their observations, for example, by describing what they see when they look at frogspawn in the outdoor pond. Children enjoy water play activities throughout the nursery. However, there are times when lengthy routines, such as removing children's clothing to keep them dry, interrupt the flow of their play. This means that, occasionally, children are not always able to follow their own interests spontaneously and engage in water play as quickly as they would like to.

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

Staff provide a stimulating and welcoming environment for children. This supports their all-round development and emotional well-being. High levels of care and supervision are provided. As a result, children explore their surroundings with confidence and are motivated to try the variety of play experiences available. An effective key-person system is in place. This ensures children develop strong relationships with staff. Effective systems are in place to maintain continuity in children's physical needs. Staff obtain good quality information from parents and ensure they continue routines, such as feeding and sleeping. Children are supported well to develop their independence skills. They take part in routines, such as tidying up, and find and return their own aprons for creative play.

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

The manager has a good understanding and effectively implements the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She is well supported by her deputy and monitors the educational programmes well. This ensures a good balance of activities is provided, covering all areas of learning. Assessments are monitored effectively. This means that children receive correct intervention at the earliest stage, to meet their specific needs. Staff, including students, have a comprehensive understanding of safeguarding. They know how to proceed should they have concerns regarding a child's welfare. The manager supports her staff team well. She spends time working alongside them in the rooms, providing ongoing supervision and training. This helps them to improve their already good practice and enhances children's achievements. Areas for improvement are highlighted, through consultation with parents, staff and children, and are used to enhance practice and provision for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	319218
Local authority	Newcastle
Inspection number	868564
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	58
Number of children on roll	98
Name of provider	Choice Childcare Ltd.
Date of previous inspection	5 July 2010
Telephone number	0191 285 5020

Kenton Park Nursery School was registered in 1992. The setting employs 18 members of childcare staff, 15 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. It opens Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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