

East/West Children's Centre

Abingdon Road, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS1 3JR



Inspection date

30 March 2015

Previous inspection date

21 December 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

- All children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, make at least good progress from their starting points. This is because staff have a very good understanding of children's individual needs and provide activities and experiences, which reflect their interests and stages of development.
- Strong key-person systems ensure that all children are emotionally secure. Children are clearly happy in the setting. They smile, laugh and interact well with staff and their peers.
- Partnerships with external agencies are strong. This means that children receive the support they need and ensures their individual needs are met consistently.
- Staff have a very good understanding of how to keep children safe, including what to do if they have concerns about a child's welfare. They help children to understand the importance of being healthy and making healthy choices.
- The management team show high levels of commitment to improve the quality of the practice within the nursery. The staff team are well supported and access training and development, which meets their individual needs and the needs of the nursery.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently provide sufficient information for all parents to continue children's learning at home.
- Staff do not always provide a wealth of opportunities for children to see and hear words in their home language, to ensure that they feel even more valued and welcome.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the good sharing of information with parents to promote even more strongly the continuity of children's learning at home
- enhance opportunities for children to hear and see familiar words in their home language, as part of the daily routine, so that they feel even more welcome and valued.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playrooms and the outside learning environment.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a range of policies and procedures, and at children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection, when appropriate.
- The inspector gave feedback to the management team.

Inspector

Cathryn Clarricoates

Inspection findings

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

Staff use their good knowledge of how children learn to provide an effective mix of child-initiated and adult-led play experiences. Consequently, children make good progress in all areas of their learning. Children are enthusiastic, motivated learners. They enjoy participating in activities and interacting with staff and each other. For example, the youngest children happily make marks with paint, brushes and their hands on paper, in a small group. Staff sit alongside the children at their level and repeat words clearly to help the development of their communication and language skills. They have established a range of ways to involve parents in their child's learning. For example, the staff team hold open days each term for parents to play alongside their child and discuss their child's records with their key person. However, information about the learning that takes place in the nursery on a day-to-day basis, is not yet shared consistently with parents. Therefore, staff do not always enable all parents to help consolidate or extend their child's learning to the fullest potential.

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

Children are happy and contented because they play in a safe, welcoming and secure environment. Staff work closely with parents to share information about their care needs and routines. Parents are very positive about the care given to their children. Consequently, children form positive and warm relationships with their key person and settle-in quickly. Children follow good hygiene routines and enjoy healthy snacks and meals. They exercise regularly in large spaces outdoors and develop strong physical skills. As a result, children are developing their understanding of healthy lifestyles well. Staff provide a stimulating environment that promotes children's independence. However, opportunities to celebrate and use children's home language are sometimes missed. Staff use effective strategies with children to promote kindness and respect for each other. As a result, children understand what is expected of them and behave very well.

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

Staff have a strong understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. This ensures that children are kept safe from harm. Highly effective partnerships with external agencies and schools ensure that all children receive good support to meet their learning and developmental needs. The management team evaluate the provision, taking into account feedback from parents and children, and set clear targets for improvements. For example staff, parents and children are currently involved in planning the development of the outdoor play area, so that it becomes an even more valuable learning environment. There is a continuous programme of staff training to improve the already good quality of teaching. Well-qualified staff use their knowledge well, consequently, all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, make consistently good progress from their starting points and are prepared well for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	508437
Local authority	Middlesbrough
Inspection number	869355
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	44
Number of children on roll	102
Name of provider	Playgroup Network North East CIC
Date of previous inspection	21 December 2010
Telephone number	01642 227140

East/West Children's Centre was registered in 2001. The nursery employs 17 members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one with Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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