

Northumberland Day Nursery

14 Northumberland Avenue, Reading, Berkshire, RG2 7PW



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

16 February 2015

1 September 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

- Effective arrangements are in place for safeguarding children, including child protection procedures, risk assessment of the premises and outings, and staff recruitment and induction procedures. Children are happy and relaxed as they explore interesting and safe play areas under the constant supervision of attentive staff.
- Kind, caring staff work effectively as a team, who willingly share ideas and experiences with their colleagues across the chain of nurseries to improve the quality of their provision for children.
- A good system of self-evaluation informs the setting's priorities and supports the identification of challenging targets for improvement to raise standards and outcomes for children.
- Staff welcome support and guidance from specialist teams and work responsibly with external agencies to maintain and raise standards across the nursery.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Management has not ensured that all staff use precise assessments of children's learning and development so that teaching of older children provides consistent challenge to enable them to make the best possible progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the consistency with which all staff use their assessments of children's progress to ensure that teaching provides sufficient challenge for older children at all times.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a wide range of activities across all areas of the nursery and talked with staff and children about what they were doing.
- The inspector reviewed documents and procedures relating to safeguarding, staffing, supervision, risk assessment, equal opportunities, and health and safety, and checked a selection of other policies.
- The inspector sampled a range of children's records, the nursery's systems for planning, evaluation, and exchanging information with parents and external professionals.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and reviewed written communication from parents.
- The inspector met with the leadership team and conducted a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Helen Robinshaw

Inspection findings

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

Staff work hard to provide children with a wide range of rich and diverse learning experiences tailored to suit the different age groups of children. Babies and toddlers quickly engage as enthusiastic and caring staff help them practise and master new speech sounds and physical skills through music, rhyme and song. Staff prepare the older children well for school as they focus on letters and sounds, self-help skills and team work. They teach children how to grow food from seeds, cook dishes from around the world, and speak in French. Staff plan their activities to meet children's individual needs and next steps in learning. However, not all staff are confident in using their computer-based monitoring tools. This leads to inconsistencies in the quality of information staff use to plan activities that challenge children to make the best possible progress that they can.

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

Care practices across the nursery are good and support children's moves within the nursery and on to school. Staff demonstrate strong commitment and respect for the children in their care. Consequently, children's behaviour shows they feel safe, secure, and valued. Staff's enthusiasm is infectious as they follow and facilitate children's interests. Young children grow in confidence and self-motivation as they freely explore, try out, and focus on succeeding in new ventures. Staff prepare rich experiences to stimulate all areas of children's learning and development indoors, under cover and out in the fresh air. Children behave well and show kindness and courtesy to each other. Staff are keenly aware of their accountability to parents, as they prepare daily updates, weekly memos, news items and informative displays. This means that parents can engage in, and access, a wealth of current information on all aspects of their children's life and nursery practices.

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

Leadership and management have good procedures in place to implement the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They have a sound knowledge of the expectations of the learning and development requirements and constantly strive to improve all aspects of their provision. The addition of new monitoring systems, where staff make and share daily observations of children's learning with parents, illustrates the standards to which the team aspire. However, staff at all levels have not received the levels of training and support necessary to use these systems effectively.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY315776
Local authority	Reading
Inspection number	987905
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	60
Name of provider	Complete Childcare Limited
Date of previous inspection	1 September 2010
Telephone number	01189 875943

Northumberland Day Nursery registered in 2006. It is one of 10 day nurseries owned by Complete Childcare Limited. The nursery operates from a house in South Reading in Berkshire. The nursery is open each weekday from 7am until 7pm. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three, and four. There are 13 members of staff who work with the children. Of these, 11 hold relevant early years qualifications and two are in training. The nursery also employs a cook.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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