

Kids in the Hall

Heddon-on-the-Wall St Andrews C of E First School, Trajan Walk, Heddon-on-the-Wall, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE15 0BJ



Inspection date	22 April 2015
Previous inspection date	22 May 2009

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 have a thoroughly enjoyable time because the club is relaxed, unstructured and friendly. This means that children follow their own interests, play independently with their friends, and can be active or just relax, according to their preferences.
- Children's learning at school is complemented well in the club. Staff work closely with the teachers and parents. This means that children's needs are well met and they continue to build their knowledge and skills.
- Children form positive relationships with the staff and develop secure friendships with other children attending. Consequently, their emotional well-being is effectively supported.
- Staff demonstrate a good understanding of how to safeguard children. This means that they are clear about how to respond should they be concerned about the welfare of a child in their care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Arrangements for staff supervision are not yet consistently carried out, in order to address minor weaknesses in the quality of teaching across the group.
- Staff do not always use a wide range of questioning skills to enhance the already good opportunities for children to develop their thinking and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the use of questioning skills to develop children's thinking and learning, encouraging them to think about alternative ways of doing things
- sharpen performance management to enable staff to identify and address any minor weaknesses.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities, the quality of teaching and talked to staff and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children and the provider's procedures for self-evaluation.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Eileen Grimes

Inspection findings

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

Staff have a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They know the children well and understand their learning styles. Children are encouraged to share their ideas about activities and staff consider their comments and views. They make independent choices in their play and confidently request additional resources, to extend their activities. Activities support children's learning at school, for example, there is a variety of books and plenty of writing materials. Staff interact fully in children's play. However, they do not always use good questioning techniques. As a result, they miss opportunities to extend children's thinking and learning, and to encourage them to consider alternative ways of doing things. Children thoroughly enjoy planned craft activities and extend these using their own ideas. Children and parents provide very positive feedback about the club's provision and contribute to parental surveys.

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

Children are happy and confident in the relaxed atmosphere of the club. Detailed initial information is gathered from parents and the school, ensuring that children settle well and their individual needs are known. Children relate well to the staff, who are friendly, caring and approachable. Good behaviour is encouraged, as staff promote cooperation and kindness through role modelling and talking to the children. Healthy snacks and meals are provided, with mealtimes promoted as social occasions where children learn to become independent. Children enjoy time outdoors, learning that exercise can be fun. They energetically run around, playing games and challenge their physical skills as they play football and ball games.

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

Management and the staff have a good understanding of their responsibilities to safeguard children. They know what to do if a child is at risk of abuse or neglect, and follow safe working practice and policies. Staff are vigilant in ensuring that children play safely, while still allowing them to take some risks in their play. They eagerly climb outside and use tools, such as scissors, with care. Staff work well as a team and support the children well in their activities. Children are collected from school by a consistent member of staff. This means that children see a familiar face and there is daily verbal contact between the club staff and school teachers, to support them. All staff hold a childcare qualification, which has a positive impact on the quality of provision for the children. Supervision meetings for staff are organised by the manager, who works within the team and monitors practice. However, staff supervisions are not yet carried out frequently enough to highlight and address minor weaknesses in teaching. Self-evaluation is effective in identifying areas for improvement.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY349235
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	857427
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 14
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	31
Name of provider	W.O.W! (Welcome to Our World) Limited
Date of previous inspection	22 May 2009
Telephone number	07866 573 348

Kids in the Hall was registered in 2005. The club employs four members of childcare staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The club opens from Monday to Friday term time only. Sessions are from 8am until 9am and from 3.15pm until 6pm.

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