

House of Eden

Bishop Middleham C of E Primary School, Front Street, Bishop Middleham,
FERRYHILL, County Durham, DL17 9AL



Inspection date

2 June 2015

Previous inspection date

18 July 2011

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

- Staff have a very good understanding of how the children learn through play. They are well qualified, and use their skills effectively to ensure there is a good balance of child-initiated play and adult-focused activities.
- Staff have good teaching skills. They enable children to develop their own ideas, take manageable risks and solve their own problems. This means that children become confident, capable learners and acquire the skills necessary for future learning, for example, in school.
- Staff work alongside parents and other professionals consistently to ensure that all children's needs are well met. Staff invite parents to share ideas and make comments on observations completed on children. As a result, parents are always kept fully informed of how well their children are progressing.
- Children have lots of opportunities to be physically active and learn the benefits of taking regular exercise. Staff are good role models, and teach children a wide variety of balance and coordination skills.
- The managers and staff reflect continuously on all aspects of their practice and policy. They work together as a strong team to ensure priorities for improvement are recorded and acted on in a practicable timeframe.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The range of books, magazines and reading material for children to independently access is limited.
- The information gathered from parents at the outset, does not always include detailed information about what children can do at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide better access to reading materials, for example, by having a wider range of storybooks, information books and magazines to ignite children's intrinsic curiosity, and meet their individual interests
- liaise even more closely with parents when children first start, to gather more detailed information about what children can do at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises, both inside and outdoors, talked with staff and children, observing interactions throughout the day.
- The inspector discussed aspects of policy and practice with all staff at appropriate times.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector checked evidence of the staff qualifications, training and evidence of the suitability of all those involved in the nursery.
- The inspector viewed a wide range of documents, including relevant policies and procedures, children's learning files, planning and assessment records, and action plans.
- The inspector spoke with parents and viewed comments on the nursery website, taking all the views into account.

Inspector

Janice Caryl

Inspection findings

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

Staff plan a good range of exciting and stimulating experiences for all children. They demonstrate their understanding of how to adapt activities to suit the needs of the younger and older children. For example, when doing movement sessions, they observe children closely to identify what they can do easily or with difficulty. Staff extend, challenge and adjust any exercises to meet the individual needs of the children. Children thoroughly enjoy making a tree house out of chairs, cushions and blankets. They gain a wide variety of skills by engaging in imaginative role play. Staff observe carefully as children talk with each other, plan, negotiate, solve problems and disagreements. This helps children to develop skills in personal, social and emotional development. Children develop an awareness of space, shape and size as they skilfully manoeuvre the equipment. Children enjoy looking at books, telling stories and making up their own tales. However, the range of fiction and non-fiction books available for children to independently access is limited. This means that there is not always enough assortment to fully meet the interests of all children.

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

Children are very happy and self-assured as they play. They introduce themselves to visitors, eagerly wanting to share photographs of activities they and their friends have taken part in. Children chat and have fun with staff, showing secure attachments have been formed. Staff effectively teach children about maintaining healthy lifestyles. Children learn about making healthy food choices, washing hands at specific times and the importance of taking care of their teeth through effective brushing. Staff provide lots of opportunities for children to become independent, self-motivated and self-reliant. Staff are sensitive and knowledgeable in helping children manage their behaviour and feelings. Reliable approaches to behaviour management are agreed with parents and carers, to ensure that children always receive consistent and clear messages.

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

The manager and staff have a good understanding of how to meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Information from parents is collected about children's care needs from the outset. However, there is not always enough detailed information gathered about children's skills and abilities, based on observations from home, when they first start. This makes it more difficult to establish children's starting points. Safeguarding procedures are understood by all staff and adhered to at all times. Staff show their understanding of what to do if they have a concern about a child's welfare. Staff appraisals and supervision meetings ensure that the quality of staff performance is of a high standard. Leaders are supportive in ensuring that staff attend training, improve their qualifications and share good practice with others. This means that children benefit from a staff team who are motivated, skilled and fresh with new ideas.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY417941
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	851881
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	49
Name of provider	House of Eden Limited
Date of previous inspection	18 July 2011
Telephone number	0138 872 2152

House of Eden was registered in 2010. It is one of six settings run by a limited company. The nursery employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 5, one holds a qualification at level 4 and two staff hold relevant qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.45am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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