

Kids 1st Day Nurseries - Hexham

Maidens Walk, Hexham, Northumberland, NE46 1DR

Inspection date

Previous inspection date

13 July 2015

25 November 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff provide children with a rich, stimulating and exciting learning environment, both indoors and outdoors. Children benefit from a huge range of high-quality resources that effectively promote all seven areas of learning. This contributes to children being self-confident, interested and motivated and developing extremely positive attitudes towards learning.
- Staff accurately observe and assess children in order to plan sharply focused activities for the next steps in their learning. Consequently, all children's individual learning needs are superbly met and they make rapid progress in relation to their starting points.
- Pre-school children develop excellent early reading and writing skills. Staff teach children and provide an environment to link letters to sounds, recognise and write their names and understand rhyming words through daily activities. This supports children to develop a range of excellent skills and abilities in readiness for school.
- Key persons are highly skilled and sensitive and help babies and children to form extremely strong emotional attachments. This supports the development of children's self-esteem, sense of belonging and feeling of security to the highest level.
- The outstanding partnerships with parents and other professionals promote each child's learning through a consistent and shared approach.
- The innovative and inspirational leadership of the manager helps all staff have excellent opportunities to further their professional development. The knowledge that staff gain from training, particularly with regard to communication and language and mathematical development, contributes towards children consistently receiving high-quality learning experiences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider supporting staff to share excellent practice with each other.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times and held meetings with the manager and area manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection and from their feedback to the provider.
- The inspector discussed the provider's self-evaluation form and plans for improvement.
- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor play areas and carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting. She also looked at a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Eileen Grimes

Inspection findings

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

Teaching across the nursery is very strong. Staff use their expertise and knowledge of how children learn to provide an outstanding range of learning opportunities. Babies gain the key skills they need to support their development. Communication and language skills are promoted through the skilful use of gestures, signs and symbols. Toddlers are fully engrossed in their play and learning as they investigate with a range of tactile resources. Pre-school children initiate many activities themselves, which are skilfully supported by staff. Children's interest in the home corner is extended through the introduction of real vegetables. This helps children to remain engaged and focused on activities for long periods of time. Staff support children to solve problems and learn through trial and error. Children take part in scientific experiments as they discover how long it takes for different sized ice cubes to melt. All children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, are superbly supported. This is because staff work in very close partnership with parents and external professionals to promote each child's learning needs through a highly effective shared approach.

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

Staff's knowledge and understanding of the children in their care is phenomenal. This means that babies' and children's physical and emotional needs are exceptionally well met. Children are well settled, happy and content in this high-quality, homely and nurturing environment. Staffing arrangements are consistent so that children are familiar with the adults who care for them. Consequently, they are confident to seek staff out for comfort and reassurance when needed. Staff are extremely good role models and play alongside children to teach them to understand how to share and take turns. This helps children to develop strong friendships and a secure understanding of acceptable behaviour.

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

The manager and staff have an excellent understanding of their responsibility to safeguard children. Detailed policies and procedures are known and understood by all staff and successfully translated into practice. This contributes towards children being kept extremely safe and constantly protected from harm. Highly effective arrangements for regular supervision and checking staff performance lead to consistency of excellent practice across the nursery. The manager tracks the progress of all children in order to identify any specific gaps in their learning. She recognises the need to strengthen opportunities for staff to share their expert knowledge to further enhance the excellent quality of teaching. Arrangements for self-evaluation are highly effective and take into account the views of staff, children and parents. As a result, strengths and weaknesses are swiftly identified and addressed and plans for improvement are sharply focused and achievable.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY337358
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	857127
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	110
Number of children on roll	138
Name of provider	Kids First Day Nurseries Limited
Date of previous inspection	25 November 2009
Telephone number	01434 605629

Kids 1st Day Nurseries - Hexham was registered in 2006. The nursery employs 24 members of childcare staff. Of these, 21 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one who holds Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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