

# Easington Children's Centre



Easington Colliery Primary School, Whickham Street, PETERLEE, County Durham,  
SR8 3DJ

## Inspection date

28 July 2015

Previous inspection date

29 February 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Good	1 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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is outstanding

- Leadership of the setting is extremely strong. The manager has an excellent understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She works closely with her deputy to ensure that standards of care and education are excellent.
- Staff gather detailed information about children's care, learning and development needs and work very flexibly with parents to ensure that children are extremely well supported as they start in the setting.
- Staff are deployed extremely well and this ensures that well-qualified and experienced staff effectively support their less-qualified colleagues. Staff work as an extremely effective team sharing knowledge and understanding gained from training to benefit all children in the setting.
- Staff ensure that children's physical and emotional needs are met so that they feel a strong sense of well-being within a safe and secure environment, where they can try new things and take risks in their learning.
- Children have access to high-quality experiences across all seven areas of learning. Staff effectively support children to develop the skills to become active and investigative learners and critical thinkers.
- Highly effective procedures are in place for the safe recruitment of staff. Induction is extremely well organised and all staff have regular access to a wide range of development opportunities, which extends their knowledge and has a very positive impact on improving practice.
- Children develop an excellent understanding of the importance of a healthy diet and lifestyle. They are encouraged to spend time outdoors in the fresh air, enjoying the changing seasons and taking regular physical exercise and activity.



## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the already excellent assessment of children's learning to provide more detailed analysis of the progress of groups, to further focus high-quality planning.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector took a tour of the setting.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning, inside and outside.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to the providers, manager, staff, parents and children during the inspection.
- The inspector viewed a range of policies, procedures, risk assessments, children's records, staff qualifications and suitability checks.

### Inspector

Julia Matthew

## Inspection findings

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

Children make outstanding progress because teaching is consistently of a very high standard. Staff use accurate assessments taken from detailed observations to plan precisely for children's next steps in learning. Group times are extremely well planned and differentiated, and fully extend children's knowledge and thinking. Staff use a variety of teaching strategies to engage all children and support their learning styles. Children enjoy exploring and investigating the environment, while staff play alongside them skilfully supporting language development and deep understanding. Children are extremely well prepared for school. Staff work in partnerships with class teachers to ensure that children develop the skills they need for their Reception year. Teachers visit the setting so that children become familiar with them. This helps children feel confident, self-assured and excited as they move on from the setting. Staff have excellent partnerships with parents to support learning at home. Home learning sacks and curriculum leaflets have been well received and help parents reinforce and reflect children's learning in the setting.

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

Children are extremely well cared for and happy in the setting. They form very strong bonds with staff, who know them as individuals and are sensitive to their needs and interests. Children who are very new to the setting are settled and secure and seek out their key person for support and comfort. Staff provide a welcoming, vibrant and stimulating environment indoors and outdoors. A wide variety of interesting, developmentally appropriate resources, tools and equipment are available for children to access independently. Children are highly motivated to learn and love undertaking real tasks, such as cleaning the chicken coop. This helps them learn about self-care and assessing risk. Children are able to explain why they need to wear gloves and wash their hand when they have finished. Furthermore, children demonstrate care and consideration as they quietly explain to the birds why they are cleaning their house. Children's behaviour is excellent because staff consistently and gently reinforce their high expectations.

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

Children are safe in the setting. Safeguarding is of paramount importance to all staff, who demonstrate in-depth knowledge of how to keep children free from harm. Supervision meetings review safeguarding procedures and audits of practice involve all staff. Health and safety policies are robust and detailed risk assessments are used to reduce hazards. Extremely strong partnerships with parents, schools and professionals ensure that children's learning is very well supported and their needs are most effectively met. The manager demonstrates an extremely strong drive for continuous improvement and embraces the views of children, parents and staff to help shape development plans. Children's progress is closely tracked and data analysed to ensure that gaps in learning are planned for. Furthermore, through astute self-evaluation, the manager has recognised the need to further analyse the progress of groups of children.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY432991
<b>Local authority</b>	Durham
<b>Inspection number</b>	853359
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	35
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	57
<b>Name of provider</b>	Giant Steps Horden Limited
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	29 February 2012
<b>Telephone number</b>	0191 5273192

Easington Children's Centre was registered in 2011 and is part of a larger privately owned company Giant Steps Horden Limited. The nursery employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, 13 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The manager holds a qualification at level 5. 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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