

Inspection date	13 August 2015
Previous inspection date	18 October 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- The quality of teaching is good. Well-qualified and experienced staff interact extremely well with the children and promote all aspects of their learning.
- Accurate assessments are used to ensure children's learning and development is progressing. Parents are fully involved in all aspects of their children's learning and assessments. Activities to promote children's learning at home are sent home regularly to further enhance this.
- Relationships between staff and the children are very good. Strong key worker relationships provide a warm and caring environment where children are developing secure attachments. Children are happy and settled and explore their environment with confidence.
- Children are well behaved and are aware of behaviour expectations. Positive behaviour management strategies are used extremely well to promote children's behaviour.
- Leaders and managers have an accurate understanding of the provision and a clear drive for improvement. They monitor all aspects of the provision and evaluate everyday practices to support positive change.
- Partnerships with parents and external agencies are very good. Regular meetings ensure that children's needs are promoted well and ensure appropriate interventions are sought to meet the needs of the children. All children are making good progress, including those who speak English as an additional language or have special educational needs or disabilities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staffing arrangements during school holidays do not always provide toddlers with opportunities to extend and further develop their social skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- evaluate how staff are deployed during quieter times of the year to ensure that toddler's social skills and relationships with other children can be maximised.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed interactions between the children and the staff during play, both inside and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including risk assessments, a range of policies and procedures. She also checked evidence of suitability of staff working in the provision.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Lynsey Hurst

Inspection findings

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

Staff have a very good understanding of the children's needs. They use their expertise to plan a range of interesting and challenging activities that are based around children's interests and next steps for learning. Staff are motivated and enthusiastic about their roles and encourage children to engage in activities. Children's communication, language and literacy skills are supported extremely well. Staff talk to the children constantly and are good role models for language. Materials to promote early writing skills are available and children display their writing around the rooms. Library books are sent home regularly to promote reading and learning at home. Effective partnerships with outside agencies ensure children have access to a range of national programmes to help develop their speech and language. Children's mathematical development is extremely well supported, and staff take every opportunity to engage children in counting activities and to introduce concepts, such as big and little.

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

Staff are very good role models for children. They constantly promote the use of good manners and support children to consider the needs of others. As a result, children develop friendships and engage well together. However, at quieter times of the year opportunities to further promote the youngest children's social skills are not always carefully considered. For example, during school holiday times, toddlers do not always mix with other children of a similar age so that they build on and extend their ability to relate to and play alongside their peers. Staff encourage children's independence skills and ensure that children are prepared for the next stage in their learning or the move to school. Children are encouraged to serve themselves lunch and snacks and to manage their personal hygiene needs from an early age. They manage risks independently and demonstrate a very good understanding of how to keep themselves safe during play. Staff have a good understanding of safeguarding and how to keep children safe and protected from harm. They are clear about the procedures they must follow should they have concerns over the safety of a child.

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

Managers and leaders fully understand their responsibilities in meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. A robust range of policies and procedures ensure that children are kept safe and protected from harm. Risk assessments ensure that the provision both inside and outdoors is suitable. Comprehensive self-evaluation is completed regularly and identifies how the provision can improve further. Monitoring and tracking of children's progress is very thorough. This ensures that gaps in learning and development are identified early. Additional planning and funding is used to support improvements. Staff training is identified through thorough monitoring of staff performance to ensure it is used to promote and improve the outcomes for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY410078
Local authority	Stoke on Trent
Inspection number	849984
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	76
Number of children on roll	80
Name of provider	Kids & Co (Stoke) Ltd
Date of previous inspection	18 October 2010
Telephone number	01782267359

Kids & Co was registered in 2010. The provision employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, and one at level 2. The provision operates from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The provision provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The provision provides care for children who speak English as an additional language and children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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