

Ovingham & District

Under 5s



Portakabin, Ovingham First School, Ovingham, Northumberland, NE42 6DE

Inspection date 15 September 2015
Previous inspection date 13 June 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff are well qualified and provide a good range of stimulating activities and experiences across the seven areas of learning.
- When children are ready to move on, staff effectively support them to understand what will happen next and build good partnerships with the new setting. Therefore, children are emotionally well prepared for their next stage in learning.
- Staff place a high priority on children's independence and create lots of opportunities for them to undertake tasks for themselves. This effectively builds children's confidence in their own abilities and results in them being self-motivated.
- The manager is committed to continuous improvement and seeks ways in which to enhance the experiences for children. She effectively uses information from staff, parents and children to drive improvements forward. Therefore, the nursery meets the needs of the children and families who attend.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always provide older children with opportunities to develop their thinking and reasoning skills further.
- Staff do not always maximise opportunities for younger children to be involved in all activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make even better use of learning opportunities to encourage older children to think and reason
- develop further opportunities for all children to be involved in activities to fully maximise learning opportunities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.

Inspector

Eileen Grimes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager has implemented a suitable system for monitoring staff's performance which includes peer observations, internal training and supervision meetings. Staff monitor individual children's progress in their learning and development effectively and the manager monitors the progress of learning for different groups of children. The information gathered from this is then used to target areas where children require most support. This ensures all children are acquiring the key skills required for their next stage in learning. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff and managers have undertaken safeguarding training, which means they have a good understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse and the procedure to follow should a concern arise about a child. Therefore, the risks to children are minimised. All staff have undertaken paediatric first-aid training. This contributes towards keeping children safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are motivated in their play because staff successfully provide activities based on children's interests. However, staff do not always maximise opportunities to fully engage younger children in activities. Staff effectively support children's communication and language skills. Children are self-assured in experimenting with the sounds they can make and talk confidently to each other. Staff consistently observe children and plan challenging activities to support all children. Children have a good range of opportunities to explore and investigate using their senses, which enhances their understanding of the world around them. However, opportunities for older children to develop thinking and reasoning skills are sometimes missed. Staff successfully support children's early writing skills. As a result, older children confidently give meanings to the marks they make, and younger children enjoy exploring the different patterns they can create. Staff effectively use a range of methods to ensure parents are fully involved in children's learning and development, which creates a fully consistent approach to children's learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff work closely with parents when children first start to attend and gather lots of information about children and their families. They use this information effectively to support children to settle easily into the setting, which means they are confident and secure in the care of the staff. Staff continue the good communication with parents to ensure children's care needs are consistently met. All children play outdoors every day, which supports their physical well-being and means they have good opportunities to access fresh air. Children are offered well-balanced, nutritious snacks and meals, which contributes towards a healthy lifestyle.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress across the areas of learning. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are very well supported and staff are vigilant in ensuring that children receive any early intervention. Staff are enthusiastic, motivated and committed to ensuring all children receive the best care and education they can provide.

Setting details

Unique reference number	301809
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	1027473
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	25
Name of provider	Ovingham & District Under 5s Committee
Date of previous inspection	13 June 2012
Telephone number	01661 833347

Ovingham & District Under 5s was registered in 1999. The group employs four members of childcare staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including one with Early Years Professional status. The group opens from Monday to Friday term time only. Sessions are from 8.45am until 2.45pm. The group provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The group support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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