

Newcastle Children's Centre

Mill Road, Newcastle on Clun, CRAVEN ARMS, Shropshire, SY7 8QN



Inspection date

4 November 2015

Previous inspection date

23 March 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
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 requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The provider has failed to notify Ofsted of changes to some of the committee members who manage the provision.
- Staff do not always ensure that parents are given ongoing information about how they can support their children's learning at home.

It has the following strengths

- Suitable systems are in place to monitor children's progress. Staff successfully evaluate children's progress in relation to their starting points.
- Staff are supported to attend a range of courses as part of their professional development. The manager is driven to improve practice as she meets up with other providers to exchange good ideas.
- Partnerships with other providers and local schools are strong. Parents are very happy with the service the nursery provides.
- The children are confident and happy in the calm atmosphere. They are well behaved and kind to their friends, following the good role models set by the staff.
- Children are safe and well cared for because staff assess the environment daily and ensure that hazards are removed.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance support given to help parents to continue their children's learning at home.

Inspection activities

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

Inspector

Lesley Bott

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The provider has failed to notify Ofsted of changes to committee members. However, the breach does not have a significant impact on children's learning and development. Members of the committee do not have contact with the children and the daily running of the nursery is managed by the manager and staff. In all other respects, the arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff have attended relevant child protection training. They know what action to take if they have concerns about a child's welfare. The new manager has been effective in tackling weaknesses and actions raised at the last inspection. Recent changes to the organisation of routines and activities have improved the smooth running of sessions and children's engagement. Staff attend mandatory training, such as first aid and food hygiene. They have attended a Getting to Good seminar held by Ofsted and other relevant training courses since their last inspection.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make regular observations and assessments of children's learning and development to ensure that all children make good progress. They carry out the required progress check for children aged between two and three years. Planned activities match individual children's learning needs. When children first start, staff complete an initial assessment of the children's starting points, taking into account parents' contributions. These are used effectively to plan next steps in learning for each child. Parents are made aware and know what their child is learning through daily diaries and termly reports. Staff foster children's early mathematics skills. Children confidently count, and recognise and use colours when helping to set the table for snack time.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children feel safe and secure. They have warm and caring relationships with staff, which contributes to their emotional well-being. Children are eager and are well motivated to learn. Staff reinforce children's understanding of simple rules and boundaries. Children's achievements are recognised and praised throughout the session. Staff give recognition to those children who sit and listen well. Children develop good levels of self-esteem as they make choices in their play from a well-resourced environment. They develop an understanding of a healthy diet through discussions with staff. Mealtimes are social occasions for staff and children to sit and eat together.

Outcomes for children are good

Children of all ages and abilities make good progress because the staff have a good understanding of how they learn through play. Children learn how to keep themselves safe. For example, children learn how to use knives to cut fruit for snack time and how to safely use outdoor equipment. Children develop a range of skills to prepare them for the next stage of their learning and their eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	224148
Local authority	Shropshire
Inspection number	1010249
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	Newcastle Children's Centre Committee
Date of previous inspection	23 March 2015
Telephone number	01588 640108

Newcastle Children's Centre was established in 1999. The nursery employs two members of childcare staff. Of these, one has an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and one has a degree in early years. The nursery opens from 8.30am to 3.30pm, Monday to Thursday, term time only. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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