

Discovery Childcare Ltd.

Unit D, Baron Way, Kingmoor Business Park, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA6 4SJ



Inspection date

18 November 2015

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Overall, the quality of teaching is good. Staff provide an interesting and varied range of activities, based on children's individual interests. Therefore, children make good progress in their learning and development in relation to their starting points.
- The qualified staff team has a secure knowledge of how young children learn and develop. Staff carefully organise learning environments to meet children's interests and keep them motivated. This means children eagerly engage in stimulating experiences.
- Children show good levels of independence for their age and gain a lot of confidence. They quickly settle and develop close attachments to staff. This has a positive impact on children's learning and progress.
- Staff provide a safe and secure environment and are confident in their understanding of child protection issues. They regularly update their knowledge and are clear about what action they would take if they have concerns about a child's welfare. As a result, children are protected from harm.
- The manager and staff team work well together to effectively monitor and evaluate the quality of the provision. They consider the views of parents and children and set clear targets, which leads to ongoing improvements in the nursery.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the manager and staff team monitor individual children's progress well, they do not use the information fully to help identify if there are any differences in the progress made by different groups of children.
- Staff do not always give children the opportunity to respond to the questions asked. This means children do not have time to think through possible responses or work things out for themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor the progress of specific groups of children and use this information to assess whether the provision for different groups can be enhanced further
- provide children with sufficient time to work out solutions to problems and organise their own thoughts so they can respond to questions for themselves.

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 nursery manager. 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 spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and looked at several questionnaires, taking account of all views.

Inspector

Carys Millican

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff are clear about their responsibilities and the safeguarding policy and procedures. Robust recruitment procedures are implemented to ensure the suitability of the staff. Staff are experienced and well qualified. The manager carries out regular supervisions to manage staff performance and to check children's progress. There is a good programme of professional development in place for staff to develop themselves. Effective links are established with the local authority, with other professionals working with the children and the local schools. Therefore, all children are supported and prepared well for their future moves. Staff share electronic learning journey records with parents regularly, which help to provide continuity in children's development between the nursery and home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Partnerships and information sharing with parents are good. Parents provide a wealth of vital information about their children when they first start attending the nursery. Staff use this information along with their own observations and assessments to establish children's starting points. Children have access to a wide variety of interesting and stimulating resources. They make their own choices in their play and confidently explore the environment. In general, staff promote children's communication and language skills well. They engage children in conversations, encouraging them to count, name colours and recognise letters of the alphabet. Children's independence is promoted and they learn to share and take turns in group activities. These experiences help to prepare children for their future learning and move on to school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children play in a warm and welcoming environment. Staff undertake regular risk assessments to identify and address any potential safety issues. They sensitively discuss these with children. This enhances children's understanding of how to keep themselves safe as they play. Staff teach children about healthy lifestyles. Children wash their hands before eating and competently do this for themselves. They help to prepare their own snack, using real knives to cut up a selection of fruit. Children play outside every day and enjoy visits in the community. They are well behaved and demonstrate good social skills and manners. Staff are consistent in managing behaviour through positive strategies. Therefore, children understand what staff expect of them, and they learn to be kind to one another and to consider one another's feelings.

Outcomes for children are good

The manager and staff team work well together. They track individual children's progress, helping them to identify where further support is needed. Staff then take the necessary action to support children to ensure that they make good progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY483277
Local authority	Cumbria
Inspection number	1001547
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	27
Name of provider	Discovery Childcare Limited
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07581 493242

Discovery Childcare Ltd was registered in 2014. The nursery employs nine members of staff. Of these, seven hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, for 50 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery supports disabled children and those who have special educational needs.

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