

Children's Choice at Southridge



Southridge First School, Cranleigh Place, Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear, NE25 9UD

Inspection date	14 January 2016
Previous inspection date	12 October 2011

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

- The quality of teaching is good. The well-qualified staff team has a secure understanding of how children learn and develop. They make good use of their accurate assessments of children in order to plan relevant activities that support children in making good progress in their learning.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Staff create a variety of opportunities for parents to make contributions to children's learning records. They are kept well informed about children's individual progress and learning needs.
- The provider and the managers demonstrate a strong commitment to continuously improving the quality of the setting. Recent changes to the outdoors have created more effective play areas and improved learning opportunities for all children.
- Staff are warm and caring, and provide children with lots of support and praise. This helps children to develop close emotional attachments with the adults caring for them.
- Staff give high priority to children's safety and welfare. Daily risk assessments are carried out and staff remind children of possible dangers throughout the day. This helps to ensure children play in a very safe and secure environment.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Monitoring of staff practice is not yet used as effectively as possible to identify clear and precise targets for increasing the teaching skills of individual staff.
- Partnership working with other settings that children attend has not yet been extended so that children's learning and development are shared more to further support their continuity of learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor more closely the impact of staff practice on teaching and use this information to help to raise standards to an even higher level
- extend the partnerships with other settings that children attend by sharing even more precise information about their learning and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the staff and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the playgroup and wraparound managers.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and managers. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the setting's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff undertake safeguarding training. This provides them with a good understanding about what to do and who to contact should they have any concerns about a child in their care. Recruitment and vetting arrangements are in place to ensure the suitability of staff. Children's learning is closely monitored and support put in place where gaps are identified. Staff have regular meetings with the managers and attend additional training. This provides opportunities for staff to build on their current knowledge and further develop their areas of expertise or interests. The managers involve staff, parents and children in their evaluation process and welcome ideas and suggestions. This shared approach enables this capable team to continually improve the setting and enhance children's learning and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a stimulating environment indoors and outside which helps to promote children's good level of engagement in learning. Playgroup children have good opportunities to express their creativity. They enjoy using their imagination to create their own unique snowman pictures. Staff organise these activities well to maximise children's learning, for example, naming the colours and counting the snowman's eyes. All children make positive and sustained progress in their communication and language. Older children are eager to join in with discussion. They talk about their experiences and their families and are confident to speak in front of a group. Staff use fun activities to introduce children to simple scientific concepts and to explore them in language. For example, older children confidently explain why some objects sink and some float. Parents are included in their child's learning. They frequently borrow resources, such as books and activity packs, to further support learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Playgroup and wraparound-care children enjoy being at this friendly setting. They eagerly explore the inviting, well-resourced indoor areas and enjoy regular outside play. All staff are attentive and friendly and have a warm rapport with the children. Good manners and kindness are promoted very well. Children gain confidence and positive self-esteem through praise and encouragement from staff. Staff teach children to have respect for each other's views and gain independence in their self-care. Children make good progress in developing physical skills. They run, balance, climb and use wheeled toys regularly outdoors. Planned activities, such as an indoor session where children follow instructions to jump, wiggle and stretch, help develop skills further. Staff ensure children are well supervised and teach them to behave safely as they use equipment and move around the setting. Children benefit from well-balanced nutritional meals and follow good hygiene procedures to help them stay fit and healthy.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in relation to their starting points. By the time they are ready to move on to school, children are working comfortably within the range of development typical for their age and gain the key skills they need.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY275280
Local authority	North Tyneside
Inspection number	848600
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 11
Total number of places	54
Number of children on roll	165
Name of provider	Children's Choice Nursery Ltd
Date of previous inspection	12 October 2011
Telephone number	0191 2008709 ex 106

Children's Choice at Southridge has been registered since 2004. The setting employs 12 members of staff. Of these, 10 hold an appropriate early years qualification ranging from level 6 to level 1 and two members of staff are unqualified. The setting operates from two separate buildings based inside the school premises. It operates a playgroup, wraparound care and breakfast, after-school and holiday clubs. The playgroup sessions are from 9.10am until 11.40am term time only. Wraparound care sessions are from 8am until 6pm all year round. The breakfast club is from 7.45am to 9am and the after-school club runs from 3.30pm to 6pm term time only. The holiday club operates during all school holidays and runs from 8am to 6pm. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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