

Flora House Day Nursery

180 Coniscliffe Road, Darlington, County Durham, DL3 8PA



Inspection date

25 October 2016

Previous inspection date

12 December 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

- The management team has a clear vision for the nursery and recognise the current strengths and areas for improvement. The views and opinions of others are fully considered and contribute to the self-evaluation process.
- All children, including those who have special educational needs and disabilities, and those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress from their starting points. They gain the necessary skills in readiness for school.
- Staff use their qualifications and training effectively. They continually model language to children, use varied vocabulary and descriptive words and ask relevant questions. This helps children to enhance their communication and language development and allows them to extend their thinking skills.
- Children's personal care needs are managed well and they have established positive relationships. Staff have a good understanding of their key-person role.
- Staff are fully aware of how to manage children's behaviour and reinforce the boundaries and expectations. Children use good manners and learn how to share and take turns with their peers.
- Children thoroughly enjoy physical play activities, including football sessions, where they can be active and energetic. These opportunities help them to build their coordination and take risks.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not fully encourage parents to share ongoing details about their children's achievements at home.
- Occasionally, staff do not make the best use of group time activities to enable younger children to fully participate and be actively involved.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen ways to help parents share ongoing information about their children's learning at home and about what they know and can do
- maximise opportunities for younger children to participate and become engaged in group time activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas accessed by children, including the outdoor environment.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed play and learning opportunities for children and spoke to staff members in the nursery.
- The inspector carried out an interview with the manager and deputy manager and looked at and discussed a range of policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working with children, the provider's self-evaluation form and improvement plan.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, parents and carers spoken to on the day of inspection.

Inspector

Rachel Enright

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff know the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about children's welfare. Risk assessments are completed and staff carry out visual checks on the environment. The premises are safe and secure for children. The management team works closely with the local authority advisors to make enhancements to future practice. Positive links have been established with external agencies and other professionals. This makes a good contribution to continually meeting children's individual needs. Staff are supported in their professional development through regular one-to-one meetings and appraisals. They are also involved in peer observations which enable them to share ideas and suggestions with each other.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have good teaching skills and follow and extend children's interests. Overall, they plan a selection of stimulating experiences to meet children's next steps in learning. Staff regularly observe and assess children's ongoing development to highlight their abilities and attainments. They work alongside the management team to ensure individual children and groups of children progress well in all areas. Furthermore, staff quickly respond to and address any gaps in children's learning. Generally, staff have established a good rapport with parents and ensure they are kept well informed about their child's day at nursery. Parents have easy access to children's development files so they have a clear overview of how to continue their learning. Children's literacy development is effectively supported. Younger children sing a selection of familiar songs and rhymes and older children listen attentively to stories and practise their early writing skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's well-being is successfully promoted. Staff create a homely, warm and welcoming environment where children feel settled and relaxed. A wide range of resources helps to encourage children's all-round development. Children are supported with their moves between nursery rooms to enable them to settle quickly and feel at ease. Staff have established good links with local primary schools which help children to be emotionally prepared for the next stage in their learning. Healthy lifestyles are fostered well. Children are provided with a good selection of nutritious and balanced meals and snacks, and their allergies and dietary requirements are fully met by staff.

Outcomes for children are good

All children comfortably make their own choices and decisions. They are creative and imaginative learners. For example, children show enthusiasm and delight as they take part in messy play with gloop, design pictures using leaves and role play with their friends. Younger children develop their exploration and investigation skills as they feel and touch different textures and materials. Older children easily use a range of tools and equipment, and develop their independence and self-care skills. Children extend their understanding of the world and they learn about people who help us. They participate in events in the local community, such as visiting the care home for the elderly.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY348184
Local authority	Darlington
Inspection number	1059748
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	0 - 8
Total number of places	44
Number of children on roll	75
Name of registered person	Flora House Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP904661
Date of previous inspection	12 December 2012
Telephone number	01325 462302

Flora House Day Nursery was registered in 2003. The nursery employs 17 members of childcare staff. Of these, 16 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens on Monday to Friday, from 8am until 5.30pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding for the provision of early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery supports children who have special educational needs and disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language.

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