

Acklam Children's Day Nursery

Acklam Road, Acklam, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS5 4EB



Inspection date

27 October 2016

Previous inspection date

18 September 2013

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 manager has a clear vision for the nursery. She has good systems for evaluating the nursery and is aware of the strengths and areas for improvement. The views of staff, parents and children are used to support self-evaluation systems. This helps to develop the nursery and maintain continuous improvement.
- Partnerships with parents are positive. They speak highly of the nursery and are kept well informed of all relevant information concerning their child's welfare and learning needs.
- Children are aware of the rules of the nursery. Staff provide clear guidance for children about what is acceptable behaviour. Children of different ages cooperate with each other and play together well.
- Children are very confident to explore and investigate and eager to benefit from the good range of opportunities provided in the nursery. As a result, they become motivated learners.
- Children are very happy, confident and settled in a stimulating environment. Staff are caring towards children and create a homely and welcoming atmosphere. This helps to support children's emotional well-being.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff offer solutions and guidance to children instead of using ways to help them think how to solve their own problems.
- Staff do not consistently support parents to share information about children's abilities and development when they first start.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support children to help them think and solve problems for themselves
- gain more detailed information from all parents about what children know and can do when they start the nursery.

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 and area 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 took account of their views and considered parents' written comments.

Inspector

Julie Campbell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff show a good understanding of how to keep children safe from harm. They can recognise the signs and symptoms of possible abuse and neglect and know what to do if they have concerns regarding a child's welfare. Staff are passionate and committed to providing a high-quality service. They attend a wide variety of training and use opportunities, such as staff meetings and supervision sessions, to reflect on their practice. Recruitment and vetting procedures are robust. New staff complete a thorough induction process to help ensure that they are suitable to work with children. Comprehensive policies, procedures and risk assessments are in place and implemented efficiently by staff.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified staff use their good understanding of the needs and interests of individual children to provide a broad range of learning opportunities. Children's assessments are monitored well by the manager. This helps to quickly identify any gaps in children's learning. Children who have special educational needs and disabilities are supported particularly well. Staff work effectively in partnership with parents and other professionals to ensure children receive well-timed support. Children's mathematical skills are supported well by staff. Lunchtime is used to encourage them to count the number of children present. Young children enjoy singing their favourite songs and rhymes. Staff extend their language skills well as they repeat back single words. Staff have created an engaging and interesting environment, both indoors and outside. Older children play together alongside staff, promoting their physical skills and imaginative skills. They show a great sense of enjoyment as they chase each other in the garden, retelling a favourite story about goats.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff take time to settle children in gradually. This includes spending time with children and their families before they start. Children are happy and well settled, they display close relationships with staff. Staff are good role models and are polite and respectful in their interactions. Staff support children's independence skills well. Children are encouraged to help with tasks at snack time and lunchtime. They are provided with healthy meals and discuss the benefits of healthy eating. Children practise good hygiene routines. Staff offer gentle reminders to them to wash their hands. Children observe positive images of diversity around the nursery, helping them to learn to value and appreciate difference.

Outcomes for children are good

Children of all ages and abilities are keen and motivated to learn. Staff support children's developing literacy skills and provide engaging opportunities for making marks. Older children are developing good physical skills, they happily run, jump and balance on crates and pallets. Younger children skilfully experiment as they explore natural objects, textures and materials. All children make good progress in their learning and are well prepared for their eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	508441
Local authority	Middlesbrough
Inspection number	1064210
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	59
Number of children on roll	62
Name of registered person	Nunthorpe Nurseries Group Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP911209
Date of previous inspection	18 September 2013
Telephone number	01642 817165

Acklam Children's Day Nursery was registered in 1991. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one at level 6. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round, except for the period in-between Christmas and New Year. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery supports children who have special educational needs and disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language.

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