Scallywags Nursery

Warrior Drive, Warrior Park, Seaton Carew, TS25 1EZ



Inspection date	7 February 2017
Previous inspection date	17 April 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 oversees a well-organised range of policies and records. This helps to secure the safe and effective management of the nursery.
- Monitoring of children's progress identifies where there are gaps in achievement between different groups of children. Additional funding is used well to support the most disadvantaged children. Successful partnership working means children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported very well.
- The strong key-person system promotes engagement with parents. They comment that staff are nurturing, children love attending and they thrive during their time at the nursery.
- Staff are friendly and welcoming. There are very positive relationships between adults and children throughout. This helps to effectively promote children's emotional wellbeing.
- Staff treat children fairly and show them kindness and respect. They encourage children to share, take turns and use good manners. Children's behaviour is good.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The process for the supervision of staff and the sharing of best practice is not yet consolidated enough to set precise targets for their future continuous professional development and to raise teaching skills to the highest level.
- Occasionally, staff do not provide sufficient challenge for all children during small-group teaching activities to support them in making the very best possible progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the programme of continuous professional development and the supervision of staff, and focus more strongly on sharing best practice and raising the quality of teaching
- enhance teaching skills during small-group teaching times to provide children with high levels of challenge and increase the potential for them to make even greater progress in their learning.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Amy Keith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff have completed recent safeguarding training. They can recognise the signs and symptoms of possible abuse. All staff fully understand the procedures for referring any concerns they have about a child in their care. Comprehensive recruitment and induction procedures help to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Self-evaluation, which includes the views of staff and parents, accurately identifies how the setting can improve even further. Information is consistently shared with parents and other professionals. This joined-up approach contributes to children's well-being and further supports their continued good progress. Overall, training, regular room meetings and supervision sessions contribute to the good management of staff performance.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The enthusiastic and well-qualified staff know children well. They motivate and enthuse children effectively. It is clear that children enjoy their learning and staff create high-quality play areas, both indoors and outside. Children have continuous opportunities to lead their own play and become purposefully engaged. They are offered a wide range of resources which quickly captures their curiosity. They are confident and motivated to try new activities. For example, babies are excited as they explore paint and make marks with their hands and feet. Staff support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities very well. These children benefit greatly from staff's strong links with external professionals, additional assessments and equipment to support their needs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff help children to lead a healthy lifestyle. They provide many opportunities to access the well-resourced outdoor play area. A range of climbing and balancing equipment supports children to take manageable risks. This helps support their physical well-being very well. At mealtimes, staff encourage children to eat healthily and help them to learn about positive food choices. Children develop good routines for personal hygiene, for example, brushing their teeth after meals. Staff exchange information with parents to meet children's needs and enable continuity of care. Staff actively encourage children to extend their independence skills. For example, they serve themselves at lunchtime, wash their own dishes and help to prepare the fruit at snack time.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, make good progress from their starting points. Young children enjoy exploring books. They practise turning the pages and enjoy looking at and talking about the pictures. Children have a positive attitude to their own learning, which helps to prepare them for their next stage of learning, such as starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY332371
Local authority Hartlepool
Inspection number 1064854

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 0 - 7

Total number of places 82

Number of children on roll 119

Name of registered person Scallywags Childs Play Limited

Registered person unique

reference number

RP909277

Date of previous inspection 17 April 2013 **Telephone number** 01429 235 351

Scallywags Nursery was registered in 2006. The nursery employs 20 members of childcare staff. Of these, 18 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including one with early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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