

All Saints Blackwell Pre-School



All Saints Millennium Centre, Ravensdale Road, Darlington, County Durham, DL3 8DT

Inspection date

8 March 2017

Previous inspection date

15 July 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

- Partnerships with parents are strength of the pre-school. Parents comment that staff go above and beyond and they have the upmost respect and trust in them. Parents are kept extremely well informed about every aspect of their child's care and education.
- Children develop very good relationships with staff. They are able to work independently and seek staff out for comfort or support when needed. Children respond well to daily routines. They are confident and have a clear understanding of what will happen next.
- The manager and her team are passionate and committed to providing a high-quality service. They promote reflective practice and have strong systems in place for self-evaluation. The manager seeks the views of staff, children and parents and uses these to identify ongoing improvements.
- Staff plan an exciting range of activities, both indoors and outdoors that is appropriate to children's individual needs. As a result, children are eager and motivated learners who make good progress in all areas of learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always give enough consideration to ways they can effectively support the older children's mathematical development during activities.
- The programme for the professional development of all staff does not focus robustly on raising the quality of teaching to an outstanding level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further opportunities for older children to widen their mathematical skills
- build on the programme of continuous professional development, so that the quality of teaching is constantly improving.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises.
- 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 pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to some parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Eileen Grimes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The staff team understands the procedures for reporting any child protection concerns as outlined in the safeguarding policy. Robust recruitment procedures are in place and are ongoing to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. The manager monitors children's progress so any gaps in learning are quickly identified and intervention is swiftly sought. They work closely with other professionals to support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff have regular performance management meetings. Partnership working is very effective. Staff work well with the local schools to support children as they prepare to move on to school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The staff team are well qualified, experienced and demonstrate a very clear understanding of how children learn and develop. Staff support children well to develop an understanding of technology. Children's communication and language skills are extremely well supported. Staff use innovative ways to increase boys' interest and enthusiasm for making marks and reading. They present exciting opportunities for mark making and an extremely well-resourced reading area with books and props which inspire their imagination. They have an extensive array of resources outdoors that encourage all children to explore and investigate within their natural world. Effective arrangements are in place for planning, observation and assessment. Each child's interests and what they need to learn next are planned for well to help children make continued progress. Activities are evaluated, changed or adapted on a daily basis to continue to provide suitable challenges for each child.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children thoroughly enjoy their time at this welcoming pre-school. Staff spend time getting to know children well and support them to help them settle quickly and feel secure. Staff listen to children and speak to them in a respectful manner. The atmosphere in the pre-school is calming. Children of all ages demonstrate that they are happy, content and comfortable in their surroundings. Children gain a good understanding of how to be healthy and keep safe. For example, they enjoy being active outdoors and learn to make healthy choices. Children gain an awareness of differences within their wider world. For example, they welcome their friends into the setting and celebrate events from various cultures.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities or those in receipt of funding, are making good progress in all areas of learning. They are enthusiastic and curious learners who are keen to try out all the activities. They are encouraged to lead their own activities and to think about how they can persist and overcome challenges they come across. Children are learning how to work together, to consider others, to share and make friends. Their behaviour is good. These are skills that

help ensure children are prepared for the next stage in their learning and for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY319495
Local authority	Darlington
Inspection number	1064824
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	23
Name of registered person	All Saints Blackwell and Salutation Church Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP526011
Date of previous inspection	15 July 2013
Telephone number	07596 166259

All Saints Blackwell Pre-School was registered in 2006. The pre-school employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one with an early years degree. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday term time only. Sessions are from 9.15am to 12.15pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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