

Park House Nursery

Pont Park, Ponteland, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE20 0JY



Inspection date

25 April 2017

Previous inspection date

24 August 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 and staff have worked extremely well to secure improvements since the last inspection and have successfully addressed the previous actions and recommendations.
- Staff build successful partnerships with parents. They share information daily about children's care needs and activities. Parents are well informed about their children's learning and development. This helps them to continue promoting their child's learning at home.
- Staff have a good knowledge of how children learn and develop. They teach children a wide range of skills and interact positively with them while they play. As a result, children enjoy their time at the nursery and are busy, active learners.
- Staff place a strong emphasis on building relationships with children and their families. Children are supported effectively by their key person, particularly when they move to a new room in the nursery and on to school.
- Care practices are successful in promoting children's good health and well-being.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, activities to promote older children's early reading and writing skills do not take account of their prior learning and exceed their level of understanding.
- The supervision and monitoring of staff practice does not have a strong enough emphasis on raising the quality of teaching to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make sure that activities consistently take account of older children's prior learning experiences and levels of understanding
- strengthen the supervision and monitoring of staff practice to focus more precisely on raising the quality of teaching to a consistently high level.

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

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Since the last inspection, there has been a clear drive to ensure all staff have a good knowledge of child protection procedures. They attend up-to-date training and know how to report any concerns about a child or an allegation against themselves. The management team has introduced regular supervision meetings for all staff. This helps to identify their training needs and check their ongoing suitability and provides them with the time to talk about confidential issues or any concerns. Robust vetting and recruitment processes are followed to help ensure staff are suitable to work with children. The manager monitors the assessment of children's individual learning to ensure their ongoing progression over time. There is a clear improvement plan in place to help staff build further on the good quality of provision already achieved.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, staff make regular observations of children's development, note their interests and plan activities that help build on their learning. Early language and communication skills are fostered well by staff. Babies babble and try out new words in response to interactions from staff. Older children initiate conversation and readily join staff to sing familiar rhymes and songs. Staff provide activities linked to children's interests. For example, babies and toddlers have great fun as they explore the textures of materials, such as wheat flakes. Older children express themselves well through music and movement. Staff encourage imaginative and investigative play well, with plenty of opportunities for children to choose what they want to do for themselves. Children's curiosity and understanding of the world around them develops well. For example, children showed a keen interest in growing vegetables and flowers, tending them carefully and observing the changes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are good role models. They give clear, consistent guidance about the expectations for children's behaviour. They employ effective strategies to help children behave well. Children learn to take turns, share and be kind to others. They develop social skills and grow in confidence. Children's special moments are celebrated on the Wow board for all to see, which helps them to feel valued and important. Children are able to use resources and tools safely, showing regard for their safety and others. Children develop their physical skills in the exciting outdoor area and use climbing equipment with enthusiasm.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are gaining the skills they need for the next stage in their learning, including starting school. Children communicate with others and develop their speaking and listening skills. Pre-school children are particularly inquisitive, friendly and talkative. Children use mathematical language as they play. They competently count and show determination to solve problems. Children thoroughly enjoy listening to stories and looking at books. Older children are beginning to link letters to the sounds they make.

Setting details

Unique reference number	301766
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	1096066
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	70
Name of registered person	Eileen Appleby
Registered person unique reference number	RP907964
Date of previous inspection	24 August 2016
Telephone number	01661 820545

Park House Nursery was registered in 1995. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. All staff hold early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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