

Craghead Childcare Centre

The Middles, Craghead, Stanley, County Durham, DH9 6AG



Inspection date	4 May 2017
Previous inspection date	8 May 2015

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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The management team is enthusiastic and committed to providing high-quality care. Robust procedures for recruitment and checking the ongoing suitability of staff are implemented well.
- Staff have an exceptionally strong focus on children's physical, personal, social and emotional development. As a result, children's progress in these areas is outstanding.
- Staff support and develop children's learning effectively to help them make good progress. Children benefit from prolonged periods of uninterrupted time to play and experiment, which ensure they remain engaged and focused on activities.
- Children form exceptionally strong attachments with staff. This has an immensely positive impact on children's emotional well-being.
- Strong partnerships between parents and staff ensure that parents are actively involved and kept well informed about their child's developmental progress.
- Close partnerships with other professionals effectively help staff support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, the staff's observation and planning for children's future learning are not as precise as possible to help children make even better progress.
- Not all staff have an enhanced understanding of how to use the repetitive play of young children to help extend their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of assessment to identify and plan for children's next steps in learning even more precisely to help them make the best progress possible
- build upon staff's already good understanding of how to use the repetitive actions of young children when they play to help maximise 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. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Children's safety is promoted well and staff give safeguarding the highest priority. All staff have completed child protection training and are fully aware of the procedure to follow if they have concerns about children. The manager continually improves the quality of staff practice, for example, by organising relevant training and individual support. She closely monitors the progress of individual children to quickly identify any gaps in their learning. Self-evaluation is accurate and includes the views of parents, carers and children. Parents are overwhelmingly positive about the nursery.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified team regularly observes children and makes assessments of their development. Staff recognise the benefits of outdoor play. Here, a group of older boys pretend to be builders. They work collaboratively and diligently, mixing soil and water for their cement so they can stack bricks. Staff fully understand when to intervene and when to stand back and allow children to experiment and test their own skills. This helps children to explore and consolidate a range of skills, such as sharing, estimating, weighing and counting. Staff help children to use mathematical language and challenge the most able children with their skills. For example, they work out that if there are six girls and seven boys then there are thirteen altogether. Toddlers listen carefully to a story being read and join staff in singing songs and nursery rhymes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are exceptionally caring and build extremely trusting bonds with all children, particularly babies. As a result, children are very happy and enthusiastic about attending and nursery. Children's behaviour is superb. They have an excellent understanding of what staff expect and treat their friends with great consideration and respect. Children develop a very good understanding of the links between healthy foods, exercise and physical well-being. The excellent resources in the garden help children to enhance their already outstanding physical skills. Children show exceptional balance and coordination. For example, they carefully place wooden beams on tyres to create walkways and manoeuvre wheelbarrows around obstacles.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress. This includes children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and those in receipt of additional funding. All children make good progress in their communication skills. Older children's social skills are outstanding. Children learn to count accurately and order objects by size and shape. They have a good understanding of how to solve puzzles and problems. Children are learning the skills required for their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY293651
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1092101
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	1 - 4
Total number of places	38
Number of children on roll	71
Name of registered person	Craghead Development Trust Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP524990
Date of previous inspection	8 May 2015
Telephone number	01207 281 597

Craghead Childcare Centre registered in 2004. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 5 and seven hold an appropriate early qualification at level. The nursery is open Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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