

Ravenside Pre-School Playgroup

St James & St Basils Church Hall, Ravenside Road, Fenham, Newcastle Upon Tyne,
NE4 9UB



Inspection date	24 May 2017
Previous inspection date	30 April 2014

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

- Children thoroughly enjoy exploring the stimulating indoor play area and the wide range of good quality play resources. They make independent choices and follow their own interests in their play and learning.
- All children make good progress. Staff are well qualified and have a secure understanding of how children learn and develop. Overall, they plan activities that engage and motivate children to learn.
- Parents are very positive about the care their children receive and comment on the caring staff. They are given regular updates about their children's learning and development. Staff provide comprehensive support for parents to continue their children's learning at home.
- Children's behaviour is very good. A well-established key-person system helps children to form strong bonds with staff. Staff are positive role models and help children to listen and be kind to each other. Children demonstrate that they feel safe and secure.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not give the same consideration to thoughtful planning of the outside area as they do inside. This means that children who prefer to learn outdoors do not always benefit from the same stimulating learning experiences.
- The new systems for observations and assessments are not yet embedded to monitor the impact of changes on children's progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the planning of activities in the outdoor environment in order to help children who prefer to learn outside have the same level of stimulating experiences as provided indoors
- embed and review the changes made to systems for observation and assessments of children's progress and monitor the impact of improvements with a focus on continuous development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact on children's progress. The inspector spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed an activity with the manager and discussed the impact on children's learning and progress.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager. She looked at records and documentation, including evidence of the suitability of adults within the setting.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their comments.

Inspector

Eileen Grimes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Rigorous recruitment procedures and ongoing supervision ensure that staff are suitable for their role. Staff know what action to take and who to contact should they have any concerns regarding risks to a child. They are kept up to date with any changes to safeguarding policies and procedures at meetings and through training. Areas children use are organised well and suitably equipped. Information about children is stored securely. The manager involves staff and parents in evaluating the service they provide. The management team reviews the progress of individual children and groups of children, and uses this information to identify areas for improvement. Targeted action plans help to promote continual improvement overall. Staff build effective partnerships with others to share information about children's progress. Additional funding is used very effectively to support the identified needs of children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is good. Staff skilfully use questioning to promote children's speaking and creative thinking skills. Children enjoy interactions with staff during singing and action rhymes. They learn to sit and concentrate, for example, as they contribute to discussions about their day. Staff introduce investigational language and various equipment during play activities. For example, staff engage children in meaningful conversations while they are looking at birds in the nesting boxes and as the caterpillars hatch from the cocoons. Information boards for parents describe what topics are being covered during the week.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff know children well and tailor their care to their individual needs. Children develop firm friendships and frequently talk about people who are special to them. They are helped to be independent and to manage their own needs well. Children are given plenty of praise and encouragement and are reminded to share and take turns. They enjoy a varied menu of nutritious and healthy snacks and drinks. Staff promote children's very good understanding of how to keep themselves safe, for example, when walking inside or playing outside. Children develop their physical skills well. Staff provide regular opportunities for children to climb and balance as they use a wide range of large apparatus both inside and outside.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those in receipt of funding and those who speak English as an additional language, are progressing well in all areas of learning. Children are becoming active, motivated and enthusiastic learners. They gain a wide range of skills, such as independence skills, and are well prepared for their future learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	319274
Local authority	Newcastle
Inspection number	1087803
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	Ravenside Pre-school Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP518603
Date of previous inspection	30 April 2014
Telephone number	0191 275 3056

Ravenside Pre-School Playgroup registered in 1992. The pre-school employs four members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school opens Monday to Wednesday from 9.15am until 2.15pm, and Thursday and Friday from 9.15am until 12.15pm, during term time only. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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