

# Levendale Under Fives Group



Levendale Primary School, Mount Leven Road, Yarm, Cleveland, TS15 9RJ

<b>Inspection date</b>	21 June 2017
Previous inspection date	26 June 2014

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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

- Staff plan a wide variety of interesting and stimulating activities to keep children interested and motivated to learn. They observe children carefully and make accurate assessments. All children make good progress.
- Staff know the children very well. They are thoughtful, kind and provide children with high levels of emotional security. Children are confident and enjoy spending time with their friends and staff.
- The management team implements a detailed programme of professional development and support for staff. Staff are well qualified and attend regular training. This helps staff to continually improve their practice with the children.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Staff keep parents well informed about their child's day. For example, they talk and meet regularly with parents to share children's achievements.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- When children attend additional early years settings, staff do not consistently share information frequently enough to fully support consistency in children's welfare and learning.
- The manager and staff do not routinely use contributions from parents to better inform the self-evaluation process.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend partnerships with other early years professionals and settings that children attend to support further continuity in their learning
- improve the systems to evaluate the provision and seek more focused feedback from parents.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises.
- The inspector observed activities and assessed the impact of teaching on children's progress. The inspector spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of an activity with the group manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She inspected records and documentation, including evidence of the suitability of adults within the group.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Eileen Grimes

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team and staff work well together to form a welcoming and professional nursery environment. Staff benefit highly from regular team meetings and training to enhance and consolidate their skills and knowledge. For example, staff recently attended training on food hygiene, which has helped them in assuring children's health and updating their procedures. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of their role and responsibility to safeguard children, including what to do if they have concerns about a child's welfare. The management team has good methods for monitoring children's development effectively.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff enhance children's independence skills well. For example, children of all ages are able to freely choose what they would like to play with and access resources with confidence. Staff support children's self-chosen play well. For example, younger children enjoy building bricks with shaving foam and experimenting how they stick together. Staff provide a good range of activities that interests children and supports their ongoing learning. For instance, children enjoy acting out favourite stories using different props; they giggle as they move through mud and snow, and older children are keen to support their younger peers.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children demonstrate that they feel safe and secure at the nursery. For example, they separate from parents and carers with ease. Staff support the children's social skills well. For example, they encourage children to chat socially to each other, including at snack and mealtimes. Staff build on children's understanding of healthy lifestyles. For instance, as children wash their hands, staff talk to them about the importance of removing dirt. Children behave well. They respond to gentle reminders from staff and staff offer appropriate praise and encouragement. Staff encourage children to be physically active. Children have daily opportunities to play outdoors, where they enjoy investigating the mud kitchen and have fun exploring and climbing on the large play equipment.

### Outcomes for children are good

All children progress well in their learning and development and are well prepared for the next stages in their learning. Children learn to listen and concentrate well. For example, they respond to changes in routine well and children of all ages enjoy singing in groups, and expressing themselves to music. Children enjoy being creative and develop early literacy skills. For instance, as older children make lists, staff chat about the letters they represent.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	305960
<b>Local authority</b>	Stockton on Tees
<b>Inspection number</b>	1087759
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	27
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Levensdale Under Fives Group Committee
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP519491
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	26 June 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	01642 784968

Levensdale Under Fives Group registered in 1976 and is located in Yarm, Cleveland. The group employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, seven hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The group opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 8.40am to 12.40pm, Monday to Friday, with extended sessions until 3pm on Tuesday and Thursday. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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