House of Eden

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Sure Start, Randolph Centre, Stones End, Evenwood, BISHOP AUCKLAND, County Durham, DL14 9RE

Inspection date Previous inspection date	10 Augus 20 Janua		
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

- The manager makes sure that staff, parents and children are all meaningfully included in the evaluation of the nursery. This helps to identify the nursery's strengths and successfully focus targets for ongoing improvements.
- Parents are very pleased with the positive learning environment. They receive regular feedback about their child's development and progress. Comments made by parents include, 'Children are well cared for by friendly and caring staff'.
- Staff regularly observe children's play and plan activities that reflect their interests and what they need to learn next. Outdoor teaching is rich and varied and enhances children's play and exploration. This, alongside good-quality teaching, helps to ensure that all children make good progress in their learning.
- Staff have established good links with schools. They invite teachers to visit children in the nursery and share information about their care, progress and learning priorities.
- Staff meet children's emotional needs well. Gradual settling-in periods are agreed with parents that help children to develop good relationships with their key person.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The information staff gain from parents when children start attending the nursery is not always detailed enough to clearly establish their starting points and measure their progress from the outset.
- Occasionally, activities do not fully stretch the mathematical learning of older children who are ready to learn more.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance further the information collated from parents about children's current levels of development when they first start to attend, to establish their starting points more clearly and inform planning
- stretch and challenge the mathematical understanding of those children who are ready and capable of learning even more.

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

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have regular opportunities to refresh their safeguarding training. They are clear about what action they should take if they have any concerns about children, families or colleagues. The senior management team complete necessary staff suitability checks at the time of recruitment and selection. Staff induction procedures are thorough. The manager observes staff in order to identify strengths and areas where practice can be improved. She provides regular opportunities for them to discuss their professional development through regular performance management meetings. Staff use what they learn at training effectively. For example, staff reviewed and altered the layout of rooms, so that children are more focused in their learning and play.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff complete regular assessments to monitor and track children's progress. They use this to plan for children's next steps and to identify and close any gaps in children's learning. Staff support children's growing vocabulary. They read to children and ask simple questions using, 'what', 'where', 'who'. Staff interpret babies' needs well as babies communicate through gestures, expressions and attempted speech. They encourage children to take part in and experience a good variety of activities. For example, very young children attempt to pick up sparkly shapes from the water. This helps them to develop and practise using their small-muscle skills. Older children become engrossed in their exploration of the garden. They search for bugs and are encouraged by staff to describe what they see. Staff introduce children to new vocabulary, such as, 'pollen' and 'nectar'. They help older children to seek information from various sources, such as reference books to learn more about bees and snails.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff create a welcoming, calm and nurturing environment for children. This has a positive impact on children's physical and emotional well-being. The relationships between staff and children are strong. Children behave well and play cooperatively. Staff consistently promote children's consideration for others, such as sharing and taking turns. Children are learning the importance of developing healthy lifestyles. They have daily opportunities to benefit from fresh air and exercise and enjoy exploring the natural world outdoors. Children learn about hygiene practices and enjoy the nutritious meals and snacks that are provided by the nursery.

Outcomes for children are good

All groups of children, including those in receipt of funded education, make good progress in their learning and development. Children develop good language skills and are able to take turns at conversing with staff and their friends. Children have access to books and they enjoy listening to stories. Babies are beginning to progress from sitting to crawling and are learning to say their first words. Children gain a range of valuable skills in preparation for the next stage of their education.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY409964
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1088102
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 6
Total number of places	38
Number of children on roll	38
Name of registered person	Core Care Evenwood Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP906854
Date of previous inspection	20 January 2014
Telephone number	01388834161

House of Eden registered in 2010. The nursery employs seven members of childcare staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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