

Castle Nurseries at Rye Hill



Rye Hill Nursery, Colby Court, Newcastle upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear, NE4 6HL

Inspection date	18 August 2017
Previous inspection date	16 May 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

- Staff are well qualified. The quality of their teaching is good. They use their knowledge of how young children learn and develop effectively to help children to make good progress in their learning.
- Children's assessment information is analysed well by the deputy manager. This helps to identify where children may require additional help to support their individual needs. Additional funding is used purposefully to narrow any gaps in children's learning.
- Relationships are strong throughout the nursery. Children show affection towards staff and other children. Children have a good knowledge of expectations in nursery and behave very well.
- Children who speak English as an additional language are supported well by staff. Many languages are celebrated and valued within the nursery. Children have good opportunities to use both their home language and English as they play.
- The manager and her deputy manager demonstrate a strong drive to continually improve the nursery. They ensure actions taken support children's achievements and take full account of the views of parents, staff and children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some activities planned do not support all children to remain highly motivated to learn and fully involved, to promote their progress to the highest level.
- The quality of teaching is not observed well enough in practice to offer constructive feedback to staff about ways in which they can improve to an outstanding level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support staff to more consistently deliver activities that help all children to demonstrate the highest levels of engagement and motivation to learn
- strengthen the monitoring of staff practice to help to raise the quality of teaching to an even higher 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 with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and deputy manager of the nursery.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and deputy 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

Nicola Jones

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. There is an excellent understanding of child protection issues among the staff team. Staff know what action to take should they be concerned about a child's welfare or to manage any allegations made against the staff team. The manager demonstrates a highly proactive attitude to working alongside external professionals to support children's well-being. Robust systems ensure staff are swiftly informed of wider safeguarding issues that children may be exposed to. The management team maintains a good overview of the educational activities provided for children. This helps to ensure most activities are appropriate for children's stage of development. Overall, staff are supported well to improve the effectiveness of their teaching. They are actively encouraged to further their professional qualifications and benefit from ongoing supervision sessions and training opportunities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are highly skilled in supporting children's communication skills. A wide range of strategies are used to help children to extend their vocabulary. Strong partnerships with external agencies, such as speech and language therapy, ensure a joined up approach to supporting children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Very good opportunities are provided for children to develop an interest in books and early reading. Children listen carefully when staff read their favourite storybooks to them and point to pictures that interest them. Very good opportunities are provided for children to learn outdoors. Exciting and stimulating activities are provided by staff. For example, children recently enjoyed making and eating jam made from the plums grown in the garden.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's emotional and physical well-being are supported well. Effective settling-in arrangements help children to develop confidence in separating from their parents and staying for short periods of time in nursery on their own. Information, such as children's sleep routines and any allergies they may have is shared and managed well. This provides continuity in the care children receive. Children show confidence when they explore the nursery environment. They are motivated to take part in the wide range of stimulating activities provided. Parents appreciate daily conversations they have with staff about their children. During the inspection parents use words, such as 'fantastic' and 'brilliant' to describe how well they feel their children are cared for and supported.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. They are prepared well with the skills they require in readiness for school. Children are confident communicators who express themselves and describe their play. They develop early writing skills when they paint large pebbles with paint and when drawing characters from their favourite storybooks. Children use mathematical language, such as 'bigger', when they use large blocks to build and construct in the outdoor area.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY222442
Local authority	Newcastle
Inspection number	1101892
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 - 5
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	71
Name of registered person	Newcastle City Council
Registered person unique reference number	RP910108
Date of previous inspection	16 May 2014
Telephone number	0191 2731618

Castle Nurseries at Rye Hill registered in 2003. The nursery employs 15 members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including two staff who hold early years professional status and/or qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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