

Northumberland Day Nursery

14 Northumberland Avenue, Reading, Berkshire, RG2 7PW



Inspection date	13 September 2017
Previous inspection date	16 February 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		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children are happy and settled at the nursery. Staff support and know the children well and use effective observation and tracking records to plan purposefully for their next steps in learning.
- Staff support children's independence skills well. For example, they provide a good range of readily available activities for the children to choose from.
- Good recruitment procedures, supervision and ongoing appraisal programmes are in place to help ensure staff working with the children are safe and confident to do so.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Staff keep parents well informed about their child's development. For example, they share records regularly with parents for them to see how their child is progressing.
- The management team works well together and demonstrates a strong commitment and drive to improving outcomes for children. Self-evaluation methods are focused and clearly identify areas for development to maintain consistently good care for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, some children do not receive consistent messages from staff to help them manage their behaviour, particularly about how their actions might affect others.
- Staff do not support children's knowledge and understanding of the similarities and differences between people in the world as well as other aspects of their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen ways to help children manage their own feelings and gain an understanding of how their actions may affect others
- extend children's knowledge and understanding of the similarities and differences between themselves and others, to further develop their awareness of diversity.

Inspection activities

- The inspectors spoke to the children and observed their involvement in activities within the nursery and outside in the garden.
- The inspectors looked at a sample of children's records and discussed these with staff.
- The inspectors took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspectors looked at, and discussed, documentation in relation to safeguarding, risk assessments and daily attendance registers.
- One of the inspectors undertook a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Tracy Bartholomew

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a strong understanding of their roles and responsibilities to protect children, and act in their best interest and welfare. The manager works well with her staff and offers good ongoing support. Staff benefit from regular training to help ensure their knowledge is up to date with current requirements. For example, staff have recently had training on the importance of communication and interaction which has had a positive impact on helping children to settle swiftly in their care. The management team monitors children's learning and development well. It regularly reviews children's progress to help ensure children are achieving. Staff use these records to target any help required for children's development, and then seek this at the earliest opportunity. Good partnerships are in place with other provisions, which supports children's transition moves successfully, such as moving to school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a welcoming environment for the children and set up the rooms with a variety of activities that provide interest and challenge. For example, in the pre-school room children have fun pretending to be builders using cement mixers and bricks to build their houses. Children enjoy the activities on offer and have fun in group games that support their listening and communication skills well. For instance, in the older toddler room, staff play different sounds to the children to build upon their concentration and thinking skills. Staff aid children's creativity skills effectively throughout the nursery. For example, children in the younger rooms enjoy sensory play as they explore with shaving foam and pasta and older children enjoy gardening.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff offer good support to the children and encourage their social skills well. For example, they remind children to take turns and encourage interaction between each other. Staff enhance children's understanding about healthy lifestyles. For example, during mealtimes they explain to children how foods help their bodies to grow. Children enjoy healthy, balanced and freshly cooked meals at the nursery. Children show that they feel safe and secure. For instance, they show confidence as they climb ladders and ride bicycles in the garden and demonstrate assurance as they self-select toys throughout the nursery.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are making good progress in their learning and development. Children are happy and well engaged and show excitement in their play, which is supportive of their learning. For example, older children enjoy participating in songs that help them put into context letters and sounds. Children learn to listen and concentrate well, for example, as they respond to stories and keenly recall events from them. Children from a young age are confident in their counting skills. For instance, all children participate in group times and these aid their basic mathematics skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY315776
Local authority	Reading
Inspection number	1085840
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	0 - 5
Total number of places	55
Number of children on roll	55
Name of registered person	Complete Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900874
Date of previous inspection	16 February 2015
Telephone number	01189 875943

Northumberland Day Nursery registered in 2006. It is one of 10 day nurseries owned by Complete Childcare Limited. The nursery operates from a house in South Reading in Berkshire. The nursery is open each weekday, from 7.30am until 6.15pm, for most of the year. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 10 members of staff who work with the children. Of these, eight hold relevant early years qualifications. The nursery also employs a cook.

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