

Riverside Playgroup

Riverside Community Health Project, Carnegie Building, Atkinson Road, NEWCASTLE
UPON TYNE, NE4 8XS



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

13 September 2017

13 June 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

- All staff are aware of their role to safeguard children. They are aware of current legislation and procedures to follow should they have concerns regarding a child's welfare.
- Children's safety and welfare are given a high priority. Staff carry out regular checks and keep the premises safe and secure. Gentle, age-appropriate reminders from staff help children to understand how to behave. Staff members are good role models for the children and the relationship between staff and children is warm and caring.
- The staff team is ambitious and staff are reflective practitioners and demonstrate a strong commitment to provide the best possible experiences for children. They work well together and with other professionals to improve outcomes for all children.
- Staff make good use of ways of teaching, such as using pictures and sign language. This helps children who have speech and language difficulties and those who speak English as an additional language to make good progress in their learning.
- All children make good progress in their learning and development from their various starting points, overall.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There are some occasions when the setting does not fully reinforce children's growing interest in exploring and using technology.
- Staff understand that some children prefer to learn outdoors. However, opportunities to support early reading and writing outdoors are limited.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of all opportunities to help reinforce children's growing interest in exploring and using technology in their play
- support those children who prefer to learn outdoors even further to have sufficient opportunities to explore reading and writing in their play and learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the activities indoors and outdoors and the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector talked to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Anthea Errington

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All staff have a secure understanding of their responsibilities to protect children from harm. Clear procedures enable them to share any concerns about a child in their care to keep children safe. Robust recruitment procedures, training and supervision arrangements help ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children and teaching is effective. The pre-school builds strong relationships with parents and the arrangements for key persons work well. This helps to ensure parents have information about their child's continued development. Parents are very complimentary about the care and teaching provided. Staff and parents are actively involved in reviewing the quality of the provision. The previous recommendation has been met. Staff use everyday routines, such as encouraging children to count out the number of children present to help effectively build on children's mathematical skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are motivated and ambitious and this is clearly reflected in their practice. They obtain information from parents when children first begin and use their own observations to plan activities that are stimulating and age appropriate. They regularly assess children's learning, which supports them to track the progress children are making towards the early years outcomes. Written summaries of the required progress check for children aged between two and three years is in place. These are shared with parents to identify the progress children make. Any gaps in children's learning and development can be identified and quickly addressed. Children enthusiastically join in and sing together as a group, which provides good opportunities to develop their communication and language skills. They develop their small-muscle skills as they use tools to dig around in the large garden pot outdoors. They show great delight as they discover a snail under the stones. This helps to develop their understanding of the natural world.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle extremely well into this nurturing environment. Staff are warm and responsive and interact fully with children. This supports children's emotional well-being. Good hygiene practices are followed and children's growing independence is encouraged. For example, at snack time children prepare their own snack. They carefully cut up fruit and pour their own drinks. Recent improvements allow children to access the outdoors freely, where they enjoy good opportunities for fresh air and exercise. They have lots of fun as they skilfully manoeuvre themselves around on small bikes. This helps to support children's good health, well-being and development of physical skills.

Outcomes for children are good

Behaviour is good. Staff provide praise and encouragement to children for their efforts, achievements and cooperation. This helps to raise children's self-esteem and supports them in feeling valued. All children gain the skills they need for moving on to future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY460863
Local authority	Newcastle
Inspection number	1102489
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	17
Name of registered person	Riverside Community Health Project
Registered person unique reference number	RP522196
Date of previous inspection	13 June 2014
Telephone number	0191 226 0754

Riverside Playgroup registered in 2013 and operates from the Riverside Community Health Project, Carnegie Buildings, Newcastle. The playgroup employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above, including one at level 5. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 9am until midday on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday and from 9am until 3pm on a Tuesday and Thursday. The setting receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. It supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

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