

Inspection date	3 October 2017
Previous inspection date	3 January 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Teaching is exceptional. The well-qualified staff skilfully capture children's interest in learning and support them to make rapid progress. They make superb use of what children can already do to assess, support and challenge their learning. Staff provide children with an exceptionally exciting and challenging learning environment.
- Staff are vigilant and are carefully deployed to assure children's constant safety and supervision. For example, they follow stringent risk assessments to ensure they store small equipment safely and minimise the possibility of accidents across the premises.
- Children are extremely motivated, independent and confident in their play. Under close staff supervision, young children thoroughly enjoy learning to use tools safely. For instance, they hammer golf tees into a pumpkin. This helps promote their small-muscle skills and they are highly successful in hitting the tee on the head.
- Children establish extremely strong attachments with the staff who are warmly attentive and quickly respond to children's needs. The exceptionally strong and secure key-person system ensures that all children are emotionally well prepared to learn.
- Partnerships with parents are highly successful, they are involved in all aspects of their children's learning and care. Staff skilfully guide parents to support their children's learning at home through the information shared. Parents are highly delighted with the outstanding quality of the learning experiences and exemplary care that their children receive. They speak very highly of the staff.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to maximise the excellent routines that help children to maintain their focus on learning to the highest levels.

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 had a tour of the premises and 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. 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 verbal and written views.

Inspector

Lynne Pope

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager works exceptionally well with staff and provides strong, inspirational leadership. She has a deep understanding of the curriculum and understands how to help staff plan highly effective activities. She provides them with continuous opportunities to develop their talents, skills and teaching through coaching and training. Safeguarding is effective. The manager checks regularly that staff understand the safeguarding policy and know how to identify and report any concerns about another member of staff or a child's welfare. Self-evaluation is exceptionally thorough and focuses on specific actions that drive continuous improvement in this outstanding nursery. The manager and staff consult widely and share their knowledge of exemplary practice with other settings. The manager meticulously monitors the progress of each child.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children's learning is planned meticulously and comes from the regular and precise assessments of their development. Planned activities are highly challenging and children are eager to take part. They thoroughly enjoy exploring and investigating. They are curious to try out new activities, such as finding the fairies that are visiting the outdoor area. The highly enthusiastic staff inspire children to take part. For example, pre-school children follow staff's actions as they sing, move their bodies to music and do various actions. This helps children develop their speech through familiar rhymes. Staff are now considering how to organise routines to extend children's excellent involvement even further.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are excellent role models for children, demonstrating polite, patient and friendly behaviour. All children behave impeccably well. Physical development is given high priority. Children relish outdoor play where they use their imagination exceptionally well. For example, they mix soil with various vegetables and examine these vegetables, such as sprouts, to see how they are made. They have taken part in growing different foods and this helps them to learn where they come from. Children learn to be healthy and enjoy nutritious, freshly cooked meals. They become extremely independent, including babies who are actively encouraged to feed themselves. Discussions in everyday play help them to learn about good and bad foods. For example, they talk about why they should not eat sugar and understand it can rot their teeth.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Pre-school children develop very high levels of language and communication skills and are confident as they express ideas and feelings, knowing these are valued by adults. They listen and follow instructions extremely well. Babies and young children are expertly motivated and supported by staff. They become extremely confident individuals. One of the many strengths of the nursery is that children are secure and thoroughly prepared for their individually tailored moves to new rooms and on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY448988
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	1102423
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 - 10
Total number of places	49
Number of children on roll	75
Name of registered person	Claire Louise Renwick
Registered person unique reference number	RP906771
Date of previous inspection	3 January 2014
Telephone number	01388763737

Westfield House registered in 2012. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays and the week between Christmas and New Year. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery also offers out-of-school and holiday care for children up to the age of 12.

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