

Universal Kids Childcare

Families Matters, Cowgate & Blakelaw Childrens Centre, Lindfield Avenue, Blakelaw, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE5 3PL



Inspection date

2 November 2017

Previous inspection date

17 November 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

- Partnerships with parents have a positive impact on children's learning and development. There are good two-way systems for sharing information about children's needs and achievements. Staff keep parents well informed and give them ideas about how to support their learning at home. Parents comment that children make good progress in the group and they are very happy.
- The staff are good role models. They set a positive example to the children and talk calmly and patiently to the children and each other. Children demonstrate good behaviour and an increasing awareness of the needs and feelings of others.
- Children's communication and language skills are well supported. Staff are knowledgeable and use a wide range of strategies to help develop children's emerging speaking and language skills.
- Staff get to know individual children well and establish positive relationships with them. Children develop a good sense of belonging and well-being.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make the most of opportunities to enhance children's knowledge and understanding of information communication technology.
- The programme for the professional development of staff does not focus robustly on raising the quality of teaching even higher.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the learning opportunities for children to strengthen their knowledge, understanding and use of information communication technology in everyday play
- build on the programme of continuous professional development so that the quality of teaching is constantly improving.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises.
- The inspector observed activities in all areas of the childcare. She assessed the impact on children's progress. The inspector spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at records and documentation, including evidence of the suitability of adults.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their comments and views.

Inspector

Eileen Grimes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a good knowledge and understanding of how to ensure that children are kept safe and the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. Rigorous recruitment procedures are in place and are supported by systems for induction. Overall, monitoring of staff performance is good. The manager monitors children's progress to ensure that any gaps in learning are addressed and enables her to moderate children's progress. The manager and staff set high expectations for themselves. They reflect on their practice and implement actions plans demonstrating a good capacity to improve.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide an exciting range of activities that supports children in their ongoing learning and development, overall. Staff engage in children's play and encourage their communication and language skills well. For example, they ask children questions about their play and give them time to answer to support their speaking and thinking skills well. Staff are highly skilled at engaging children in books at story time. They encourage children to predict the story and they are keen to retell it. Staff help teach children mathematical skills as they play, such as by introducing a range of natural objects for them to count, sort and compare. Children are inquisitive as they play with and explore dough. They roll, knead, squeeze and stretch it. Staff talk to the children about making hedgehogs using various tools and resources.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff help children to learn about being healthy and having healthy lifestyles. For instance, they talk about different foods, such as fruit and vegetables at mealtimes, explaining how they are good for their bodies. Children have daily opportunities to play outdoors and extend their physical skills. They freely access the outdoors, where they manage risks and develop their awareness of keeping safe. Children learn to respect and learn about each other's differences. They enjoy visiting their local community and learn about a range of festivals, such as Diwali, Christmas and Chinese New Year.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their developmental starting points. They are confident and keen to learn. Children show enthusiasm and interest as they choose activities. For example, children are eager to paint and to dress up. Children enjoy regular activities in small groups, helping them to develop confidence in speaking up in front of others. They develop good listening and attention skills which prepare them well for learning in school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY398892
Local authority	Newcastle
Inspection number	1105021
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	2 - 4
Total number of places	34
Number of children on roll	36
Name of registered person	Bunhill Services Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP529237
Date of previous inspection	17 November 2014
Telephone number	0191 214 2460

Universal Kids Childcare registered in 2009. The setting employs nine members of childcare staff, of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The setting opens from Monday to Friday 8.30am to 3.15pm, term time only. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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