

Maidendale Nursery

Maidendale House, Burnside Road, Darlington, County Durham, DL1 4SU



Inspection date

23 November 2017

Previous inspection date

27 April 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

- The experienced, well-established and dedicated leaders and staff work closely together to consistently build on the high-quality provision. They regularly seek the views of children and parents to help make plans and carry out continuous improvements.
- Staff overall establish effective partnerships with parents and other professionals which helps them meet individual children's needs well. Parents say that they are well informed about their children's progress and find the staff very supportive.
- Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are extremely well supported and make good progress in line with their starting points.
- Those children who start with skills and abilities below typical levels make good progress and soon catch up with their peers. They continue to learn and develop because they receive consistently high-quality teaching and support.
- Staff provide a nurturing environment where children and parents are warmly welcomed. Children settle quickly and enjoy their time at the nursery. They form strong relationships with staff, helping them to feel emotionally secure.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently seek the very detailed information they need from parents about children's learning and development before they start at the nursery.
- Although older children do have access to a role-play area there are limited opportunities for them to develop their imagination and engage in varied role-play ideas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gather more information from parents about what children know and can do when they first attend
- enhance the opportunities for older children to use their imaginations and develop their role-play ideas.

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 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 views.

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have all undertaken child protection training and have a clear understanding of the safeguarding policy and procedure. They know what to do and who to contact should they have any concerns about a child in their care. Good deployment of staff and the completion of risk assessments help to maintain a safe environment and ensure children are supervised well. Recruitment and vetting procedures are robust and ongoing suitability checks ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children. Staff's professional development is supported and they make good use of the regular training they receive to improve outcomes for children. The management team and staff rigorously track and monitor the progress of all children. This helps them to swiftly identify and address any gaps in children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use a good range of teaching methods and facilitate children's learning well. They plan a range of activities based on children's interests. Staff recognise those children who prefer to learn outdoors and allow them to make choices about where they wish to play. Staff use pictures and visual prompts to help support children's communication and language skills effectively. They encourage children to take part in and lead singing sessions. Children select the picture to represent their favourite song or rhyme. This helps to support their early reading skills. Babies and the youngest children participate in all the different activities available. For example, babies explore the foam with great enthusiasm. Older children record what ingredients they need to make a cake, helping to develop their early writing skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Babies and children feel safe and secure in this child-centred environment. Staff follow children's individual routines from home and effective settling-in procedures help children to quickly develop close and trusting relationships with their key persons. Staff act as strong role models and help children to share, take turns and behave well. Children's good health is promoted effectively. Staff remind children of the importance of following good hygiene procedures, such as washing their hands before eating and after using the toilet. In addition to this, children have opportunities for regular outdoor activities. Staff teach children about personal safety. For instance, children learn how to manoeuvre safely when using wheeled toys and when traversing wooden planks.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those receiving additional funding, make good progress. Children enjoy listening to their favourite stories and join in with familiar phrases. They learn to become independent and take care of their own needs. For example, toddlers show will and determination as they put on their shoes and coats for outdoor play. Children show a good interest in counting and problem solving during activities. All children are motivated to learn and eager to engage in activities and try new things.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY358816
Local authority	Darlington
Inspection number	1093116
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	72
Number of children on roll	140
Name of registered person	Firth Moor & District Community Assn Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP524078
Date of previous inspection	27 April 2015
Telephone number	01325 363121

Maidendale Nursery registered in 2004. The nursery employs 22 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds early years professional status, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 6, 17 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one at level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks a year and sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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