

Hadrian Bears Playgroup

Wallsend Jubilee Primary School, Mullen Road, WALLSEND, Tyne and Wear, NE28 9HA



Inspection date	23 November 2017
Previous inspection date	10 January 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

- Staff place high emphasis on developing children's communication and language skills. They are well qualified and use their teaching skills well to help children build up and extend their vocabulary.
- Strong partnerships with the host school and other local schools ensures a consistent and complementary approach to supporting children's learning.
- Parents take a keen and active part in their children's learning. Staff engage with parents in a number of ways and encourage them to keep up to date with the progress their children make.
- Overall, the manager reviews the provision well, as part of her leadership role. Clear future plans show how improvements aim to support children's outcomes.
- Children's behaviour is good. Staff help children to recognise and understand the rules for being together with others, such as waiting for a turn or sharing toys and equipment.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some group-time activities provided for two-year-old children are not precisely focused on their stage of development and level of understanding.
- Staff have not fully explored ways in, which children can experiment with making marks as part of their play to raise their achievements in literacy to a higher level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support staff working with two-year-old children even more, to provide activities that are finely tuned to children's age and stage of development
- strengthen opportunities for children to experiment with making marks that help extend their early writing skills to a higher level.

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 children and staff during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the playgroup manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the playgroup manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the playgroup.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Nicola Jones

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and her staff team provides a safe, secure environment where children enjoy playing and learning together. There is a comprehensive understanding of child protection issues among the staff team. They know how to respond and who to contact should they have any concerns about a child's welfare. Regular training helps staff to keep their safeguarding knowledge updated. The manager monitors this well, testing their skills in a variety of ways, including 'on the spot' questions. Staff are supported well by the manager. She observes their teaching on a regular basis. Constructive feedback is provided and discussed during staff supervisory meetings. Regular activities, such as the weekly staff 'huddle', gives staff time to reflect on their practice and share their ideas to improve the effectiveness of their role.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a good range of learning activities that reflect children's interests well. Creative experiences, such as making snowmen using old food boxes, glue and buttons, help children to make models and represent their own ideas. Staff support children well to respond to different textures. For example, they provide trays of ice cubes when children make their snowmen and encourage them to explore these with their hands. Children delight in the experience, placing ice cubes on their fingers and making comments about how cold it is. A good range of activities are provided for children who prefer to learn outdoors. For instance, children explore conkers and leaves in a builder's tray. They scoop them up with spades, moving them to suit the purposes of their play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide a warm, friendly environment for children where their individual needs are met. Stimulating play areas are set up, both indoors and outdoors, where children are motivated to play and learn. Highly effective arrangements help children to settle into playgroup and develop confidence in staying on their own. For example, each child has a settling-in plan. This is tailored to reflect the needs of individual children and supports their emotional well-being very well. Staff are responsive to any changes in children's physical health, for instance, if they become unwell while at playgroup. They monitor children closely and contact parents, should this be appropriate. Parents spoken to describe how delighted they are with the quality of the care provided for their children.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and are prepared well with the skills and knowledge they require for their move on to school. Children demonstrate good levels of concentration during activities. They persist with activities when challenges occur. For example, children persevere with jigsaw pieces, turning them around, until they fit into the correct place. Children show they are proud of their efforts and respond positively to the praise they receive.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY462335
Local authority	North Tyneside
Inspection number	1102500
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 - 9
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	63
Name of registered person	Kay Handley
Registered person unique reference number	RP516557
Date of previous inspection	10 January 2014
Telephone number	07763889516

Hadrian Bears Playgroup registered in 2013. The playgroup employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The playgroup opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 7.30am until 4.30pm. The playgroup provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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