

Hirst Welfare Centre Nursery

Hirst Welfare Centre, Alexandra Road, Ashington, NE63 9HN



Inspection date

19 March 2018

Previous inspection date

16 May 2017

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Good | 2 |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| | Previous inspection: | Requires Improvement | 3 |
| 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

- Parents speak highly about the staff and the introduction of the new online system, and they say it is easier for them to contribute their ideas and obtain regular information from the staff.
- The manager and staff demonstrate good teaching skills and an effective drive and skill in continuing to raise quality across all areas of the nursery. They have worked hard to secure successful improvement since the last inspection.
- Staff demonstrate good teaching skills and get to know children well. They provide plenty of praise for children, helping them to recognise what they are doing well.
- The strong effective leadership ensures a positive, purposeful and calm learning environment where children's behaviour is good. Children are polite and respectful. They are supported by staff who are good role models to them.
- Children make good progress in their learning and development from their various starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff understand that some children prefer to learn outdoors. However, the outdoor play area is not effectively presented for children to use and sustain their interest and enjoyment of outdoor play.
- Occasionally staff miss opportunities to support children further with regard to their understanding of healthy lifestyles.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve how the outdoor environment and resources are organised and presented, to fully sustain children's interest and enjoyment of the outdoors
- strengthen opportunities for all children to develop their understanding of healthy lifestyles.

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 setting.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views, in addition to written feedback provided.

Inspector

Anthea Errington

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff are clear about the indicators that may alert them to concerns for a child's welfare and have good awareness about procedures to follow. Staff have worked hard to improve the setting and previous actions have been met. The new manager has introduced recent changes to improve practice, which include regular staff supervision. Clear learning goals for children have been identified which are linked into planning. Staff closely monitor the progress of individual children to ensure gaps in learning can be quickly addressed. Staff are supported well to engage in professional development, for example, through training. Robust suitability checks ensure staff are suitable to work with children. Parents are extremely complimentary. They state that their children are happy and well cared for.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know children well and track their progress successfully to support and plan effectively for the children's next steps. Activities led by adults are closely matched to each child's capabilities. Individual and small-group work helps children develop their listening skills. Flash cards and simple sentences spoken with younger children help them develop speech. Children learn mathematical concepts. Young children explore texture and shape as they manipulate the foam beads. Staff skilfully use children's love of singing to practise simple subtraction and addition as children enthusiastically sing a counting song. Children use positional language as they describe the teddy as being 'under' or 'on top' of the table while engaging in a game of hide and seek. In addition, they demonstrate their confidence in numbers and practise counting in their home language as well as in English.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle quickly into the setting. Staff are warm and responsive towards the children and interact fully with them. This helps to ensure children's emotional well-being. Children move around the room freely as they explore and play with the variety of resources available to them. They play outdoors and benefit from the fresh air this provides. Young children have lots of fun as they engage in a game of hide and seek with staff, skilfully crawling through tunnels, which provides good opportunities for physical exercise. Healthy nutritious meals and snacks are freshly prepared which children thoroughly enjoy. All of this contributes towards their ongoing good physical health.

Outcomes for children are good

Children behave very well and are happy and content, supported by a caring staff team who are good role models to them. They have lovely opportunities to discover the natural world in the investigation area and use shells to practise their individual counting. All children gain good skills in readiness for their next stages in learning and move to school.

Setting details

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|--|---|
| Unique reference number | EY496205 |
| Local authority | Northumberland |
| Inspection number | 1099365 |
| 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 - 5 |
| Total number of places | 20 |
| Number of children on roll | 30 |
| Name of registered person | Active Northumberland |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP535069 |
| Date of previous inspection | 16 May 2017 |
| Telephone number | 01670857810 |

Hirst Welfare Centre Nursery registered in 2015 and is run by a limited company and charity. The nursery employs five members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens from 8am until 6pm for 50 weeks a year, excluding bank holidays. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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