

Ovingham & District

Under 5s



Portakabin, Ovingham First School, Ovingham, Northumberland, NE42 6DE

Inspection date	18 May 2018
Previous inspection date	15 September 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

- Staff are skilled in using a wide range of different teaching skills to promote children's development. They have a good understanding of all children's individual needs and current stage of development. Children make good progress in their learning and develop the key skills needed for the next stage in their learning and starting school.
- The manager and staff are motivated, enthusiastic and reflective. Effective development plans help to identify areas for improvement and achieve good outcomes for children.
- Parents are very pleased with the service they receive. They comment that staff are very welcoming and help their children to settle and feel at ease when they first start. Parents are well informed about their children's progress and activities.
- Staff and children build positive relationships together. Children settle quickly and happily into play and develop positive levels of well-being and self-esteem.
- The manager uses effective ways to monitor the quality of care and teaching that staff provide. She holds individual discussions with staff and together they evaluate and review their performance.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the best use of all available opportunities to extend the learning of those children who prefer to learn outdoors.
- Younger children do not always have enough opportunities to explore, investigate and develop their natural curiosity and imagination.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the experiences available to support the learning and enjoyment of children who prefer to learn outdoors
- extend the opportunities for younger children to explore and investigate to develop their learning further.

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 evaluated an activity with the deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's development plan and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents and grandparents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection.

Inspector

Melanie Vincent

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All staff have a good knowledge of how to protect children, including who to contact to seek advice or raise concerns. A detailed induction programme provides good support, encourages teamwork and sets high standards. The manager identifies appropriate training courses for staff to develop their teaching skills and further develop their knowledge. For instance, staff have attended training to develop their skills in working with younger children. The manager has efficient ways of monitoring children's development to see where possible gaps in their learning may be emerging. Staff liaise effectively with other professionals to support children who require additional help. Staff work very successfully with the local school. They make sure that children know what to expect and that they are familiar with their new surroundings. For example, children who are due to move into Reception class begin to have their lunches in the school hall.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use observations and assessments of children's learning effectively to identify and plan for what children need to learn next. Children develop good physical skills and enjoy being active in their surroundings. They use the large play area in the school for exercise and to develop their physical skills, such as balancing, climbing and throwing. Staff encourage children to develop their early writing skills. Older children enjoy writing 'shopping lists' during their play and use chalk to draw silhouettes of their friends outdoors. Children have many opportunities to learn about the world around them. They are supported to make 'bug hotels' and investigate insects. They enjoy visits from local rangers where they carefully handle and observe different animals.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

A well-established key-person system helps children to quickly form secure and positive relationships with staff and other children. Staff collect appropriate and detailed information about children before they start. This helps them to respond quickly and meet children's care needs effectively. Staff successfully promote children's good behaviour. They encourage children to share, take turns and play cooperatively together. Staff recognise and praise children's achievements and support them to gain confidence. Children learn about a healthy diet. They are provided with nutritious meals and fresh fruit. Drinking water is readily available.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident and very sociable. Older children develop good mathematical knowledge and confidently count, recognise shapes and compare sizes. Children develop their literacy skills well and recognise letters and the sounds they represent. They know where to find their favourite toys and make independent decisions about their play. Children have high levels of independence and do things for themselves. For example, older children pour their own drinks and younger children put on their shoes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	301809
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	1127806
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	18
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	Ovingham & District Under 5s Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP519475
Date of previous inspection	15 September 2015
Telephone number	01661 833347

Ovingham & District Under 5s registered in 1999. The nursery employs four members of childcare staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications ranging from level 2 to level 7, including one member of staff who holds early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 8.45am until 2.45pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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