

Discovery Childcare Ltd.

Unit D, Baron Way, Kingmoor Business Park, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA6 4SJ



Inspection date

11 July 2018

Previous inspection date

18 November 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 manager is motivated and committed to her role. She regularly reflects on the strengths and weakness of the provision and seeks the views of staff, children and parents. She uses this information well to plan future improvements for the nursery. This shows a continual commitment to improve children's outcomes over time.
- Overall, the quality of teaching is good and some aspects are outstanding. This is particularly so in the baby room. Staff seize opportunities for learning, directly linked to children's known next steps and interests. Furthermore, staff are highly skilled in helping babies and young children form secure emotional attachments.
- Staff feel well supported in the nursery and speak very positively of the management team. Regular supervision and training opportunities help build staff's skills and create a valued and motivated team.
- There are highly effective partnerships with other professionals. As a result, children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities are extremely well supported and make very good progress in line with their starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Monitoring of staff teaching is not rigorous enough to raise the quality of teaching to the very highest levels across the whole nursery.
- Although parents are provided with a wide range of opportunities to be involved in their children's ongoing learning, these are not implemented as effectively when children first start.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor staff's teaching more rigorously to raise practice to the very highest levels
- strengthen current partnerships with parents and provide further opportunities for them to be involved in their children's learning from the outset.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning, during play inside and outside.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held a meeting with the nursery provider and manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection and other written comments.
- The inspector looked at children's records, evidence of the suitability of staff and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Katie Sparrow

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff know exactly what to do should they have concerns about a child. They supervise children well and maintain a safe environment. For example, staff complete regular risk assessments of all areas. This helps to ensure that any possible hazards are removed. Recruitment and vetting procedures are robust and ongoing suitability checks ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children. Monitoring of children's progress is robust and helps to identify where children require additional support. This has recently led to enhancements to the educational programme of understanding the world, targeting pre-school boys and their development in technology.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and get to know children well through regular observations and accurate assessments of learning. They use this information effectively to plan activities, taking into account children's individual interests and needs. Children show high levels of engagement during their play and benefit from the broad range of interesting and exciting activities. Staff use a range of teaching skills to promote children's learning. For example, staff ask a range of well-posed questions that greatly engage children's thinking and communication skills. Staff show high expectations of children. They draw their attention to the instructions and steps they need to follow during a cooking activity, helping children understand that print carries meaning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour is excellent. They learn important social skills, such as sharing and helping others, which are well practised within the nursery. Children particularly enjoy decorating and leaving their 'kindness stones' out for others to find. They delight in finding out their stones have been found and who found them. Children engage in many activities and experiences that promote their awareness of the wider world. During Diwali children dress in traditional costumes and dance to Indian music. Staff give clear messages to children about healthy lifestyles. Activities involving measuring and comparing the sugar content of their favourite drinks help provide a good visual aid for children. Children are happy and enjoy their time spent in nursery with their key person. Children's physical and emotional well-being is well met.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident, motivated learners who become increasingly independent. They enjoy listening to their favourite stories and join in with familiar phrases. They give meanings to the marks they make; for example, when writing postcards ready to post to family members. Babies use excellent fine motor skills to manipulate dough and use different finger and hand motions. Children who have SEN and/or disabilities are sensitively included in all activities. All children are gaining the necessary skills in readiness for moving on to the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY483277
Local authority	Cumbria
Inspection number	1132209
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 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	61
Name of registered person	Discovery Childcare Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP902308
Date of previous inspection	18 November 2015
Telephone number	01228 672459

Discovery Childcare Ltd registered in 2014. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 5.30pm, all year round. In total, 11 staff work at the nursery, all of whom hold relevant qualifications. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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