

Shotton Children's Centre

Children's Centre - Shotton Primary School, Grange Terrace, Shotton Colliery, Durham DH6 2JP



Inspection date	14 August 2018
Previous inspection date	19 January 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- The management team strives for continuous improvement. Together with staff they continuously evaluate and reorganise the environment to provide more learning opportunities for children.
- Partnerships with parents are a strength of the nursery. Parents speak highly of the nursery and are fully involved in their children's learning. This helps to support continuity of care and learning between the nursery and home.
- Staff have an in-depth knowledge of children's individual needs. They successfully plan purposeful, exciting activities and experiences for individual children. This helps children to make good progress.
- Children are very happy, confident and settled in a stimulating and welcoming environment. Staff provide clear guidance for children about what is acceptable behaviour. Children are aware of the expectations of the nursery and respond positively by behaving very well.
- Partnerships with external agencies, such as health visitors and school staff are good. Staff skilfully work in partnership with other professionals to ensure information sharing is effective. This helps to meet children's individual needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff complete mandatory training, they have not fully considered looking at a broader range of topics to help to expand their teaching skills even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide a broader range of professional development opportunities to help to enhance the teaching skills of staff even 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 completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to some parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Julie Campbell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff have a strong understanding of safeguarding procedures. They regularly update their child protection and safeguarding training. Staff demonstrate a good understanding of possible symptoms of children at risk. They know the action to take to report such concerns. Recruitment and vetting procedures are robust. New staff complete a thorough induction process to help to ensure that they are suitable to work with children. Comprehensive risk assessments are in place and implemented efficiently by staff inside and outdoors. This helps to keep children safe. The manager regularly monitors the activities and experiences that are offered to children to ensure that they reflect their interests, individual needs and stage of development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff carry out regular observations and assessments of children's learning. Management and staff analyse the assessments and can quickly identify any gaps in children's learning. Where children are identified as requiring additional support, staff develop individual support plans. Children's physical development is supported well. For example, young children enjoy investigating the outdoor area, where they climb, run, jump and crawl. Older children enjoy playing in the water, where they use nets to catch fish and ducks. Staff plan activities to help to develop children's mathematical skills. For example, children enjoy decorating and constructing shapes. They confidently identify the shapes as 'cubes' and 'cuboids'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well. Children show high levels of self-control and confidence during activities and understand that certain rules are in place for their safety. Staff are positive role models. They teach children about being kind to each other. Children benefit from healthy snacks and learn good hygiene habits. For example, staff teach older children the importance of handwashing to promote their health and self-care skills. Children are cared for in a happy and welcoming environment. Staff interact positively with children and take time to settle children in gradually. This includes spending time with children and their families before they start. This helps children to feel emotionally secure. Children are becoming independent and take care of their own needs, such as putting on their own shoes.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are making good progress in their learning and development. Staff support children's developing literacy skills and provide engaging opportunities for reading and mark making. Children communicate confidently, they share their opinions and ask questions. Children of all ages and abilities are keen and motivated to learn. All children are well prepared for their eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY332903
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	10062733
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	54
Name of registered person	Howletch & Shotton Primary Childcare Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP527365
Date of previous inspection	19 January 2016
Telephone number	01915260105

Shotton Children's Centre registered in 2006. The nursery employs eight members of staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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