

Newcastle Children's Centre

Mill Road, Newcastle on Clun, Craven Arms, Shropshire SY7 8QN



Inspection date	13 September 2018
Previous inspection date	14 July 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 new manager has worked hard to develop the nursery since coming into post. She is highly reflective and includes the views of others well in self-evaluation. Actions taken to improve the quality of the provision have a positive impact on children.
- Teaching is strong. It is varied to promote all areas of children's learning. Staff adapt activities to meet the needs of different children. Children have high levels of engagement and motivation in their learning.
- The effective key-person approach helps children who start to settle in quickly and feel emotionally supported by staff. The care children receive from staff is responsive and sensitive.
- Children develop good levels of independence. They learn to do things for themselves and complete small tasks, such as giving out plates and cups at mealtimes.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff have not fully established strong links with the providers of all other settings children attend to help promote continuity in children's care and learning.
- Staff do not encourage parents to share detailed information about all that their children know and can do when they start attending.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the relationships with the providers of all other settings children attend to exchange detailed information about children's care and learning needs
- encourage parents further to share in-depth information about their children's knowledge and skills when they start and fully use this information in the assessment of children's starting points.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager. He looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Scott Thomas-White

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager is highly experienced and well qualified. She is identifying the training needs of other staff through the new performance management procedures. The manager researches and shares new ideas that staff implement well. This has a positive impact on children's learning. Monitoring of the curriculum and the progress of individual and groups of children is strong. Children who are not making the expected progress receive the support they need from other professionals to help them catch up. Safeguarding is effective. Staff minimise hazards to children while still allowing them to take appropriate risks. Leaders implement the safeguarding, child protection and safer recruitment policies consistently and staff know them well.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The observation, assessment and planning arrangements are effective and support children to make good progress in their learning. Staff skilfully reshape their teaching to help follow children's emerging interests while still promoting their next steps in learning. For example, when children create models in the sand tray, staff add sequins and encourage children to name the different shapes. This helps them to develop their mathematical skills. The activities and teaching are well focused on supporting children to be ready for the next stage in their learning, including school. For instance, staff read rhyming stories to children to encourage them to listen to and join in with repeated refrains. The manager is strengthening the key-person system well. This is increasingly helping parents to become more involved in their children's learning. Staff use a wide range of opportunities to teach children about their own culture, the community they live in and the customs of different celebrations, such as Holi.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The environment is stimulating inside and outside. Children are keen to lead their own learning and staff help them to do this by making toys and resources accessible. Staff promote children's good behaviour, positively. They help them to follow rules, share, cooperate and take turns. Children feel safe in their play and exploration. They learn how to take part in physical activities safely, such as how to throw foam javelins so they do not hurt others. Staff give children clear messages of how to keep healthy. For example, they explain that oranges contain vitamin C, and this helps to stop you from getting poorly. They provide nutritious food and many opportunities for physical exercise.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning, including those that the nursery receives funding for. Children have good social skills. They can accept the view of other children even when they do not agree with them. Children's communication and language skills are developing well. They can listen to and identify sounds. Children are expressive. They enjoy making sounds with instruments and are starting to learn how to tap out a rhythm. Children are keen to talk about their experiences from home through their play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	224148
Local authority	Shropshire
Inspection number	10065807
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	2 - 3
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	19
Name of registered person	Newcastle Children's Centre Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522905
Date of previous inspection	14 July 2016
Telephone number	01588 640108

Newcastle Children's Centre registered in 1999. The nursery employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and one holds qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, from 8.30am until 3.30pm, during school term times. It offers occasional school holiday care. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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