

The Barn Childcare

2 Fairfield Road, Fairfield, Stockton On Tees TS19 7AJ



Inspection date	12 September 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Not applicable	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 manager and her senior team demonstrate a strong drive to develop a high-quality setting where children's all-round development is supported well. Following reviews of the provision, clear priorities for the future have been identified that aim to improve children's achievements.
- Staff have quickly established links with practitioners in other settings, where children also attend. This helps to provide a consistent, complementary approach to supporting children's learning.
- Senior staff are beginning to review children's on-entry assessment information. This is helping to identify areas where children may require additional help, to narrow possible gaps in their learning.
- Children's behaviour is good. Staff provide gentle, consistent reminders that support children's understanding of the age-appropriate rules and boundaries in place.
- Children's good health is supported well. Daily routines, such as regular handwashing, help children to develop a strong understanding of practices that support their good health.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make best use of all opportunities to help the youngest children to develop their speech to support them to make the best possible progress.
- Staff do not consistently help children to develop a deep enough understanding of how to use and return resources appropriately as they play and learn.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for the youngest children to fully develop their communication skills and raise their achievements even further
- help children to develop a deeper understanding of how to use and return equipment appropriately as they play.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and senior staff. She 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
Nicola Jones

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The newly established staff team understand their responsibilities in keeping children safe. They know where to find updated contact numbers to share any concern they may have about a child. For instance, a list of local authority professionals is displayed on the wall of the setting. Staff supervise and support children well as they play. They are vigilant and respond promptly, should any incident or accident occur. The building is safe and secure for children to access. For example, staff use a fob to access all main doors and escort any visitors through the setting. Support for staff is good. Although many staff have only been employed in the setting for a relatively short period of time, the manager and other senior staff are working alongside them in their childcare rooms. Recent support includes modelling practice and introducing new resources into play areas. This, alongside new training arrangements, helps staff to improve the effectiveness of their teaching.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is good, overall. Staff are well qualified and use their skills and knowledge well to support children's learning. Staff supporting older children demonstrate strong teaching skills. This is illustrated when they support children during activities, such as exploring and cutting a variety of fruits. Children engage very well. They concentrate and cut their fruit safely, receiving help if necessary from staff. Staff provide very good opportunities for younger children to explore and investigate. For example, a suitcase filled with compost and digging tools is attractively displayed on the floor area. Children enjoy exploring this with their hands and watch closely when staff model what else they can do with it. Staff are beginning to develop a good understanding of where children are in their learning. On-entry assessments are developing well. Staff use good-quality information from parents about children's existing learning to support them in building a picture of what children know and can do. This supports children's ongoing progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and settled in the newly established setting. Staff support them well, particularly when they are settling in. Highly detailed information about routines and comforters is gathered from parents and is used well by staff to provide consistency in the care children receive. Children are confident, motivated learners. Older children manage their own risks when they use equipment, such as knives, to cut fruit. Excellent levels of supervision from staff ensures their safety. Ratios are met at all times.

Outcomes for children are good

Although many children have only been attending for a short period, they are beginning to show signs of making good progress. Younger children settle well and explore their learning environment with interest. Older children listen and respond to questions staff ask them. This helps to develop the skills they need in readiness for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY559582
Local authority	Stockton-on-Tees
Inspection number	10077931
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	40
Name of registered person	The Barn Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP533073
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01642 587781

The Barn Childcare registered in 2018. The setting employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or higher. The setting opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 6pm. The setting provides funded early education for two- and three-year-old children.

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