

Whitfield Valley Community Nursery Chell Heath



Stoke North Childrens Centre, Bishop Road, STOKE-ON-TRENT ST6 6QW

Inspection date	6 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

- Staff develop positive relationships with the local schools and strong links with other professionals, including those who support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. This means there is a shared approach to children's care and learning so that they receive consistent support.
- The management team effectively monitors staff's practice. Managers hold regular supervisory meetings with staff and identify ways to help support their professional development. This helps the management team to identify how they can improve staff's knowledge and skills so that all children make good progress.
- Staff build strong relationships with children. For example, they respond quickly and sensitively to children's needs and offer them cuddles when needed. This helps children to feel relaxed and safe, and to join in with new experiences.
- The outdoor play area offers children a sense of adventure and the opportunity to experience challenge and manage risks for themselves. For example, children climb up the steps and walk along the wooden wobbly bridge. They lift, manoeuvre and climb on the car tyres and zoom around the circular play road on their tricycles.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not provide all parents with as much information as possible about the plans for their children's future learning.
- Some staff do not use the information they gather from observing children as effectively as possible to support children to make rapid progress in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase the information provided to parents about the plans for their children's future learning
- use the information gathered from observing children even more effectively to help children make rapid progress.

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 staff's assessment of children's progress and how they plan for children's next steps in their learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with one of the directors of the company, the manager and the deputy. She looked at relevant documentation, such as children's records and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and children spoken to on the day.

Inspector
Linda Yates

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a good understanding of the procedures they should follow if they have a concern about the welfare of a child in their care. The management team reflects on the progress of individual and specific groups of children across all areas of their learning. This helps the team to identify where teaching can be improved. Some staff have recently completed training on promoting children's literacy development. This has helped them to place a stronger focus on developing children's listening and speaking skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff understand and use a wide range of effective teaching strategies. For example, children enjoy a musical instrument activity. Staff offer children a choice of instruments, such as maracas and bell rattles. They model how to sing, use the instruments and count as they clap together. During such activities, staff encourage the children to investigate a range of concepts. For example, loud and quiet, big and small, stop and go, and high and low. Children enthusiastically make dough with flour, water and oil. During such activities, staff describe what children are doing to develop their understanding of language. They extend children's learning further by counting how many drops of oil they use, and forming and sounding out letters of the alphabet in the spilt flour on the table. Children experiment as they poke, squash and roll the dough and use scissors as they try to cut it.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff monitor the effectiveness of the environment, indoors and outdoors, and make sure that it motivates children to use the resources and learn. They provide children with healthy snacks and drinks. Staff sit with the children during snack times and talk about what they like to eat and about the types of food that promote their good health. They promote children's self-care and independence skills well. For example, children help prepare their snacks by spreading their crackers with healthy toppings. Staff use effective strategies and positive role modelling to help children behave well.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points and develop the skills they need in readiness for school. They are deeply involved in their play. For example, children play for long periods with the sand and mould it into shapes. They hold hands and jump and laugh together. Children closely observe caterpillars change into chrysalises, then emerge as butterflies and then release them outdoors. They use paints to create their own picture of a butterfly. Children are self-assured, happy and seek out others to share their experiences .

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY538087
Local authority	Stoke-on-Trent
Inspection number	10059697
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	20
Number of children on roll	17
Name of registered person	Chell Area Family Action Group
Registered person unique reference number	RP532472
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01782 694859

Whitfield Valley Community Nursery Chell Heath registered in 2016. It is one of two nurseries managed by Chell Area Family Action Group. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 9.30am until 4.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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