Spring - Fairfield

Fairfield Primary School, Glenfield Road, STOCKTON-ON-TEES, Cleveland TS19 7PW



Inspection date	19 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 manage	gement	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 are supported well by the manager and other senior members of the team. Effective supervision arrangements and ongoing professional development programmes help staff to improve their knowledge of supporting early years children.
- Staff demonstrate a proactive approach in working with external professionals who may also be involved with children. This ensures a consistent approach and helps children to make good progress in their learning.
- Children develop a strong understanding of age-related expectations and boundaries in the setting. They behave very well and respond appropriately to daily routines, such as leaving the setting and walking to school.
- Staff promote good hygiene and support children's health effectively. They encourage children to understand why routines, such as handwashing, are vital before they eat or take part in activities involving food.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not provide consistently high levels of challenge as children play and engage in activities to support them to make the highest levels of progress in their learning.
- Although partnerships with the host school are good, a wider range of strategies to support children's learning has not yet been shared to provide even greater consistency in the support they receive.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide consistently higher levels of challenge to help children to make the best possible progress in their learning
- strengthen good partnerships with the host school even further to provide even greater consistency in children's learning.

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 manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and area manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- 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 manager and her staff team, including apprentices, know how to respond to any concerns they may have about the welfare of a child in their care. All staff receive training and updates to ensure their safeguarding knowledge is up to date. For example, staff describe in exceptional detail how children can be protected from being exposed to extreme views. The manager is supported well by her senior team to oversee the quality of the provision. She observes regularly in the main childcare room and outdoor area, reviewing the activities provided for children and supporting the staff team. Self-evaluation is strong. The manager has effective systems in place to review children's assessments. She uses this information to drive forward improvements. For example, mathematics was recently identified as an area where children were performing less well. A programme of training and coaching was put in place to help staff to incorporate this area more into their teaching, to support children's achievements.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, teaching is good and some staff have excellent teaching skills. Staff demonstrate this when they support children's communication skills. For instance, when children place a basket on their head, staff make eye contact with them and say, 'You have put a hat on your head'. Children respond very well and repeat the action using other equipment. Staff skilfully incorporate mathematics into children's play. They introduce words, such as 'heavy' and 'full', when children explore the balancing scales and encourage children to count during everyday activities. Partnerships with parents are strong. Recent improvements include enhancing the information gathered from parents about children's skills when they first start attending. Parents say their children make good progress in their learning at the setting, especially in their communication and language skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Well-qualified staff support children as they learn to play alongside other children. They help them to develop skills, such as taking turns with equipment and sharing. Children show good independence. For example, they know where to hang their coat when they arrive at the setting and self-register by placing their name on their coat peg and on the decorative tree. Good-quality information is gathered from parents and is used well by staff to support children's emotional and physical well-being. Ongoing discussions ensure children receive continuity for routines, such as nappy changing.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress. They develop strong skills that support their readiness for school. Children listen well during activities, such as welcome time and when staff read them stories. They show high levels of motivation during activities and are keen to take part. Children confidently use technology as they play. They take photographs using a digital camera and expertly manoeuvre remote control cars around the floor space.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY539468

Local authority Stockton-on-Tees

Type of provision 10059581

Full day care

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Day care typeChildcare on non-domestic premises

Age range of children 2 - 10

Total number of places 24

Number of children on roll 63

Name of registered person Action For Children Developments Ltd

Registered person unique

reference number

RP539433

Date of previous inspectionNot applicable **Telephone number**01642 587040

Spring – Fairfield registered in 2016. The setting employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The setting opens from Monday to Friday, and is located within Fairfield Primary School. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The setting provides funded early education for two- and three-year-old children.

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