

Spring - Riverbank

Riverbank Children's Centre, Gilmour Street, Thornaby, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland TS17 6PF



Inspection date	17 October 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	

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 quality of teaching is good. Staff are qualified and knowledgeable. They provide children with an exciting range of activities and experiences that enables them to develop new skills.
- There is an effective key-person system that successfully promotes children's development and well-being. Caring and nurturing staff listen attentively to children and use what they know about children's interests and routines to ensure they feel safe and secure.
- Children's behaviour is good. Effective explanations from staff ensure that children are learning to understand the needs of others and the reasons for any boundaries. As a result, they are able to show consideration for their peers.
- The experienced manager provides effective leadership and is committed to continuous improvement. She takes account of the views of staff, parents and other professionals to target areas for further development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not consider ways to manage group sizes effectively, to help enhance all children's experiences.
- Though staff demonstrate through discussion that they are knowledgeable about children's starting points in the nursery, they do not all consistently reflect this in their baseline assessments to help track the progress that children make over time.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review ways to enhance all children's learning during large-group activities
- strengthen how staff assess children's starting points in the nursery to accurately reflect what they know about the child and to help track their progress over time.

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 had a tour of the nursery and spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector
Lynne Pope

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager makes sure that staff's knowledge of child protection is current. Staff know where to report concerns about another member of staff's behaviour or concerns about a child's welfare. The manager is fully committed and determined to continually improve learning experiences for children. She observes staff in their work and holds regular supervision sessions that focus on their practice and this helps her to make sure that teaching is consistently good. Staff implement new ideas gained from training and make changes that benefit children. For instance, staff have accessed training in oral health. This helped them to teach children the correct way to clean their teeth. Overall, the manager monitors the progress that children make well and this helps her to identify and act on any gaps in learning. For example, monitoring identified that boys were not accessing imaginative play so staff introduced a mud kitchen that has successfully engaged them in using their imagination in this area.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and use their knowledge and skills to support children's play and learning. Children are keen and enthusiastic learners. They follow instructions well and are familiar with the daily routines. Staff support children's mathematical skills effectively. They encourage them to count and compare different sizes, shapes and colours. Staff take account of children's interests and follow their lead in activities. They spend time talking and listening to children to help build on their speaking skills. Staff introduce new words to help to support children's growing vocabulary such as, 'squeeze' as children practise their small-muscle skills, using tweezers to pick up small objects.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The learning environment is extremely well organised and children access a fabulous range of natural resources. Children are involved in purposeful play where they use their imagination really well. They thoroughly enjoy accessing the garden areas. They use their imagination as they pretend to hunt for a bear relating to a familiar story. They are active as they fill and empty containers with water and enjoy splashing in the resultant puddles. Staff enhance their physical well-being through regular movement sessions to music. Children learn how to move their bodies in various ways and enjoy relaxing at the end of the session as staff help them to regulate their breathing.

Outcomes for children are good

Overall, children make good progress with their learning and development. They are well prepared for their next stage of learning and subsequent move to school. Children are sociable, interested in one another and happily join in each other's activities. For instance, they talk to each other about the different sizes of pumpkins as they weigh them on the scales. Children demonstrate their independence when they serve themselves meals.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY539493
Local authority	Stockton-on-Tees
Inspection number	10067489
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	1 - 3
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	41
Name of registered person	Action For Children Developments Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP539433
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01642612278

Spring – Riverbank registered in 2016. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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