

# Happy Smiles

Leadgate County Infant School, West Street, CONSETT, County Durham  
DH8 7PN



<b>Inspection date</b>	8 November 2018
Previous inspection date	5 March 2014

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

## Summary of key findings for parents

### The provision is good

- The manager and her well-qualified staff are committed and enthusiastic. They have high expectations of themselves and children in their care. The manager collects the views of parents, staff and children to help to develop the nursery.
- Parents speak very positively about the nursery, in particular, the caring staff. There is strong partnership working and frequent two-way exchanges of information between staff and parents. All children make good progress.
- Children behave very well, relative to their ages. Staff provide a wealth of praise and encouragement and frequently celebrate children's achievements. They are extremely positive role models.
- Staff provide highly effective support for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. They work effectively with a wide range of professionals to help to close any gaps in children's learning.
- Children of all ages make independent choices in their play and regularly practise their self-care skills during routines. For example, they serve food at mealtimes and help to do up their own coats.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some of the new systems and procedures are not yet fully embedded and reviewed to assess their impact and inform further planning.
- The organisation of resources and activities in the outdoor area is not as fully developed as in the playroom, to help to support even more effectively those children who prefer to learn outside.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that recent changes to systems and procedures are fully embedded and evaluated to support further improvements
- enhance the provision for outdoor learning to even higher standards, to help to support those children who learn best outdoors.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a tour of the premises.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact of this on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to staff, children, and parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff.

### Inspector

Cathryn Clarricoates

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and her staff have a robust understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse, and the procedures to follow should they have any concerns about a child's welfare. The manager reviews detailed risk assessments regularly, to identify and minimise risks. This helps to keep children safe from harm. The manager continuously monitors and analyses children's progress. She acts swiftly with the staff team to address any gaps in learning for individual children and for groups. The manager supports staff effectively and identifies their professional development needs. For example, all staff accessed training to enhance the development of children's early mathematical skills. They apply this learning well, during play and routines, to help to improve outcomes for children. The staff team work closely with other settings that children in their care attend, to promote a consistent approach to their learning and development.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use accurate observations and assessments of children's learning to inform planning to meet their needs. They know children's interests well and provide an exciting range of experiences to help to motivate them in their play. For example, children enjoy investigating what happens when they drop ice cubes into warm and cold water. Young children explore how the ice and water feel and learn new words, such as 'cold' and 'frozen'. Staff encourage children to practise their early mark-making and counting skills, while they engage in role play. For example, children pretend to write letters and count these as they place them in a post box. They spontaneously burst into song during activities and staff happily join in with their singing. This helps children to develop their language skills and builds their confidence.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff have wonderfully warm relationships with children. They value children highly as individuals. All children know their key person well and form extremely strong attachments to them. This helps children to develop superb levels of self-esteem. Staff tailor settling-in arrangements meticulously to help children to settle exceptionally well from the start. They provide daily opportunities for children to explore their physical skills. Children have access to a secure open space where they can run freely and safely. They learn how to take appropriate risks, such as when they balance on crates or climb a ramp. Staff help children to understand about the wider community, for example, during regular bus rides and visits to the local library. Children learn about keeping themselves healthy and eating a nutritious diet. Excellent hygiene routines are followed.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children gain the necessary skills to help to prepare them for their future learning, including the eventual move on to school. They frequently use their early literacy skills, for example, listening carefully to stories and looking independently at the impressive range of books. Staff encourage children to take these home regularly to enjoy with their families. This helps to support continuity of learning. Children of all ages gain good social skills.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY347260
<b>Local authority</b>	Durham
<b>Inspection number</b>	10068872
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full day care
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Age range of children</b>	1 - 6
<b>Total number of places</b>	32
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	44
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Leadgate Child Centre Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP526764
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	5 March 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	01207 583583

Happy Smiles registered in 2007. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, or above. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8.45am until 4pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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