

Smileys Creche

Mid Staffordshire General Hospitals NHS Trust, Staffordshire General Hospital, Weston Road, STAFFORD ST16 3SA



Inspection date	5 November 2018
Previous inspection date	20 July 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	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 are warm, caring and responsive towards the children in their care. This, and regular meaningful praise, helps children to develop close emotional attachments and positive behaviour.
- Staff develop strong relationships with parents and carers. For example, they find out what children already know and can do from parents and use this information to ensure starting points are accurate from the outset. Furthermore, staff support parents well with regard to continuing their child's learning at home.
- The management team holds regular confidential meetings with each member of staff. This provides staff with time to talk about anything they may be worried about, their key children and their training needs. Staff share findings from training they have completed with their colleagues during team meetings. This helps to keep everyone's knowledge up to date.
- Staff develop strong relationships with other providers, including local schools. They make sure that information is exchanged regularly so there is consistency and continuity with regard to children's care and learning. Outcomes for children are good.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some members of staff, when posing questions, do not give children the time they need to think and contemplate their answer.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide thinking time for children so they can consider their answers to the questions that staff ask.

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 registered person, the nursery manager and the deputy 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

Mary Henderson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff attend child protection training on a regular basis. They are confident about what to do and whom to inform should they have any concerns about a child. Staff check all indoor and outdoor areas before the children arrive. They minimise or remove any possible safety hazards. This, and close supervision of children, helps to keep all children safe and well. The management team works with staff to monitor the educational programme. This helps to ensure that teaching continues to have a positive impact on all children's learning. The management team includes staff, parents and children in its self-evaluation procedures. This helps it to identify strengths and to focus on targets for ongoing improvement over time.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a broad range of interesting and challenging activities for babies and young toddlers. For example, babies are encouraged to use their senses as they investigate real vegetables. Staff use a running commentary and demonstrate how to feel the textures and how to smell them, to encourage their explorations further. Older toddlers enjoy kicking autumn leaves into the air. Staff explain and demonstrate how they can scoop these up with spades and children have fun as they catch the falling leaves. Staff working with the pre-school children provide interesting scientific activities. For example, children mix ingredients in a water bottle and look on in awe as the mixture erupts from the bottle like volcanic lava. To enhance pre-school children's learning even further, staff show them a real volcano on the computer screen. This helps pre-school children to make connections in their experiences. Children of all ages are encouraged to count and identify shapes and colours during everyday activities. They enjoy local nature walks and staff encourage them to listen and to observe changes in the environment over time.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are provided with well-balanced, nutritious meals and snacks. Staff make sure that children's individual requirements and parents' preferences with regard to meals are fully accommodated. Staff are well deployed to ensure that children are supervised closely while taking manageable risks in their play. Children use a range of appropriate climb-and-balance equipment with growing confidence. Staff foster children's growing awareness about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning. Babies and younger toddlers show curiosity as they freely explore battery-operated toys. They giggle and listen to the electronic voice as they repeatedly push buttons. Older toddlers smile as they mimic animal noises when looking through books together. Pre-school children demonstrate pride and a can-do attitude as they use signing during their morning registration time. All children grow in confidence as they join in with singing and rhyme times. They make marks with paints, crayons and chinks throughout the day. All children are well prepared for the next phase of their learning, including their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	218487
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10065994
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	0 - 11
Total number of places	72
Number of children on roll	109
Name of registered person	Smileys Creche Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP905438
Date of previous inspection	20 July 2015
Telephone number	01785 220720

Smileys Creche registered in 1990. The nursery is one of several settings operated by Smileys Creche Ltd. The nursery employs 27 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualifications at level 6, three at level 5 and two at level 4. A further 17 members of staff hold a relevant qualification at level 3 and three at level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 6.45am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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