

Downhill Centre

Killarney Square, Downhill, Sunderland, Tyne and Wear SR5 4AY



Inspection date	5 December 2018
Previous inspection date	27 June 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Met	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

This provision is good

- The manager is extremely passionate. She leads the setting effectively with the experienced team. All staff show a strong desire to make a difference in children's lives. They gather feedback from external advisers, parents and children to evaluate what is working well and to identify how they can improve the setting further.
- All staff give children's well-being the highest priority. They have established excellent partnership working with a wide range of professionals and work together extremely closely to meet the needs of children and their families. Staff support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities very well.
- Staff are aware of when to facilitate children's learning and how to interact with them during their play. They make effective use of their understanding of how children learn to encourage them to solve problems and become active learners.
- Children's behaviour is good. They develop good social skills. For instance, they happily share and take turns during a small-group fishing game when staff support them well to share fishing rods with their friends.
- Although partnerships with parents are good, staff occasionally miss opportunities to share information about children's development to ensure the highest levels of continuity in care and learning.
- Staff have not fully embedded the newly implemented systems for planning to focus sharply on what children need to learn next and promote excellent outcomes for all children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the already strong relationships with parents and share information about children's learning and development highly effectively to promote the highest levels of continuity in care and learning
- embed the newly implemented systems for planning, sharply focusing on children's interests and what they need to learn next, to support all children to make rapid and sustained progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors 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 nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. 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

Amy Keith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All staff complete regular safeguarding training and have a secure knowledge of their role to ensure that children's welfare is promoted. The highly motivated team is successfully driving improvements to raise children's care and learning to the highest standards. Regular supervision meetings and thorough performance management support the manager to identify strengths and areas for further development. Extensive training supports all staff to improve their teaching skills and to achieve higher qualifications. Staff monitor children's progress well. Close scrutiny of detailed assessment information identifies where there are gaps in achievement for individual children and between different groups of children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff purposefully engage with children and get down to their level. This helps to focus and engage their attention and concentration. Staff help children to develop their speaking skills. Children confidently welcome one another, take part in singing time and learn to recognise their individual name cards at the beginning of the session. Staff effectively motivate children to make independent choices about what they want to do and where they want to play. They use clear language when talking to children, spend time playing alongside children and listen to their views and ideas. For example, children are delighted to engage in imaginative play in the café role-play area. They pretend to make pizza and talk to staff about what ingredients they want to put on their pizza.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

All staff have an excellent knowledge of individual children. Their close attention to essential information, such as care routines and family changes, enables staff to provide support to meet children's individual needs. Children form secure attachments with all staff and this helps promote their emotional well-being. Children show that they feel safe, secure and ready to learn. They move around the environment purposefully and enthusiastically. Staff encourage children to develop their independence skills. For example, they ask them to wash their hands before eating and encourage them to pour their own drinks. Children are physically active and have many opportunities to play in the well-resourced outdoor area.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points and attain the key skills needed for the next steps in their learning, including for starting school. For instance, they successfully recognise numerals and learn to count accurately as they play with dough. Children are keen and active learners who feel comfortable in their surroundings and enjoy their time at the setting. They are eager to try new experiences and interact well with staff and one another.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY277356
Local authority	Sunderland
Inspection number	10083177
Type of provision	Sessional 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 - 4
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	7
Name of registered person	Sunderland North Community Business Centre Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522652
Date of previous inspection	27 June 2014
Telephone number	0191 519 6722

Downhill Centre registered in 2000 and is located in Sunderland. The setting employs three members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including one with early years professional status. The setting opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 9am until midday. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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