

Branches@the Winlaton Centre



The Winlaton Centre, North Street, Blaydon On Tyne NE21 6BY

Inspection date	10 June 2019
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		Not Applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The manager fully recognises the importance of checking the ongoing suitability of staff to ensure they are safe to work with children. She frequently monitors children's accidents and incidents in order to swiftly address any trends to safeguard children's welfare.
- Staff establish strong links with local primary schools and meet regularly with teachers to discuss children's development. This creates a joint approach and successfully promotes children's future learning.
- Children are confident in their communication and language skills. They chat happily alongside their peers and engage in purposeful discussion with staff.
- Staff actively encourage children to make decisions and to voice their views and opinions. This helps children to feel valued and respected.
- Children thoroughly enjoy a good range of nutritious snacks and comfortably help themselves to drinks and fruit throughout the session to keep them hydrated. Staff effectively support children to follow healthy lifestyles.
- The current programme for professional development of staff is not yet precisely focused on raising the quality of their interactions with children to the highest level.
- Although children have opportunities to be physically active, the outdoor environment is not stimulating and motivating enough to enrich their play experiences even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend professional development opportunities so that they are sharply focused to help strengthen the quality of staff interactions to an even higher level
- provide a more stimulating outdoor environment, particularly for children who prefer to explore and investigate outside, to continually enhance their play experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the setting accessed by children and observed play opportunities.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and spoke to staff members in the setting.
- The inspector carried out an interview with the manager and looked at and discussed a range of policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working with children and discussed the provider's self-evaluation.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector
Rachel Enright

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager has a clear understanding of the strengths and areas for improvement of the setting. She works closely with staff based within the community centre to drive forward the provision. Staff participate in team meetings to allow them the opportunity to continually share ideas and suggestions with each other. The manager carries out review meetings with staff to monitor their performance and to give constructive feedback on their practice. Staff complete an induction at the start of their employment to ensure they are well informed about the expectations and daily routines. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are knowledgeable about possible signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect. They are fully aware of how to respond to any concerns about children's well-being. Staff attend safeguarding training and recognise their responsibility in relation to the 'Prevent' duty guidance.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide children with a wide variety of interesting activities indoors to suit their individual preferences. Children show consistent levels of enjoyment and enthusiasm as they play. For example, they develop good problem-solving skills and display cooperation as they work together to make models with construction resources. Staff use this activity to extend children's mathematical understanding and to think about balance and coordination as they build their structures. Children easily identify various sizes and shapes, talk about patterns and practise their counting. Staff foster children's literacy development well. For instance, children show an interest in books and stories and take part in mark-making activities where they enhance their writing skills. Partnerships with parents are positive. Staff encourage parents to share details about their children's interests and abilities on entry to the setting. This enables them to have a secure awareness of how to support children from the very start of their placement.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well. Staff support children to gain high levels of confidence. They acknowledge children's achievements and offer frequent praise. Older children act as good role models and provide help and guidance to younger children. Children recognise appropriate boundaries and learn to follow time restrictions when using some resources, such as the computer equipment. Staff implement an effective key-person system to help children to form firm relationships. This makes a strong contribution to children's personal, social and emotional development. Staff enable children to take ownership and responsibility for completing tasks for themselves to extend their independence skills. For example, older children take orders for snack time and help staff to prepare food in the kitchen. Staff support children to explore different festivals and countries from around the world. This builds on children's understanding of culture, diversity and tradition.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY542122
Local authority	Gateshead
Inspection number	10103185
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Out-of-school day care
Age range of children	3 - 11
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	111
Name of registered person	Branches Out Of School Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP542121
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07428081194

Branches @ the Winlaton Centre registered in 2017. The setting employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The setting opens Monday to Friday, from 7.30am until 9am and from 3pm until 6pm during school term time and from 8.30am until 4.30pm during school holidays.

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