

Tees Valley Tots

Tees Valley Womens Centre, Upper Albion Street, Middlesbrough, Redcar
And Cleveland TS6 6XG



Inspection date	26 June 2019
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This is a provision that requires improvement

- Staff do not take full account of older children's interests and stage of development when planning activities and experiences throughout the day. Some children do not make good enough progress.
- Risk assessments are not fully effective in identifying and minimising all potential hazards. Young children's safety is not supported as well as possible.
- The provider does not use supervision effectively to provide the manager with the support, coaching and training she needs in order to continually improve her knowledge and support children's needs effectively.
- Current arrangements for supporting the staff team to continuously improve its skills and knowledge are not fully effective.
- Arrangements for gathering information about children's knowledge and skills when they first start attending are not fully effective.

It has the following strengths

- Staff share information about children's care and learning with other providers, such as schools, where children also attend. This helps to provide a consistent approach to the care children receive.
- Staff use a range of effective strategies to help children understand age-appropriate boundaries and expectations while in the creche.
- Children's independence skills are supported well. Children are encouraged to take part in activities, for example pouring their own drink and brushing their teeth as part of mealtime routines.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
improve teaching to provide stimulating, purposeful activities and experiences that are tailored to older children's interests and individual stage of development, to help them to make good progress in their learning	31/07/2019
improve risk assessment procedures to ensure all risks to children's safety are identified and addressed as swiftly as possible	05/07/2019
ensure the manager is provided with appropriate support to ensure she has the skills to develop the effectiveness of her role and improve outcomes for children.	31/07/2019

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

- strengthen support for staff to ensure they are helped to continually improve their knowledge, understanding and practice
- extend the ways in which parents share information about their children's learning when they first start attending to promote good progress in their learning.

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 creche manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the creche.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents during the inspection.

Inspector
Nicola Jones

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management requires improvement

The manager received some support from the provider during her induction. However, this has not continued to help the manager continually improve her skills and help her to manage her time effectively. This has an impact on the support and training she is able to give to staff, who do not always receive the help they need to develop all aspects of their role. Despite this, the manager has recently reviewed some areas of the provision and has improved some elements of teaching and learning. She has identified and helped staff to improve practice for children under the age of two years. Recent changes to arrangements to monitor children's progress are developing well and help to identify where individual children require additional support or challenge to promote their progress. Safeguarding is effective. Staff recognise the signs that may indicate possible harm to a child and know who to contact to share this information further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Teaching is variable. Activities and experiences provided for older children are not stimulating or challenging enough to enable children to make good progress in all areas of their learning. For example, although many are well qualified, staff provide children with colouring-in sheets that do not sustain their engagement and present a high enough level of challenge. Staff support children under the age of two years well. They support their early communication skills effectively. For instance, staff sit with children and look at soft cloth books together. They look at pictures and model sounds, such as 'd d d' to encourage very young children to babble. Overall, partnerships with parents are good. Staff talk to parents daily to share children's achievements. However, staff are not always proactive enough to obtain information from parents about children's learning when they first start attending. Staff give parents opportunities to share this information, but they do not always follow it up when information is not received.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Risk assessments are not consistently fully effective in ensuring equipment used by children is suitable for their age. For example, the manager and staff team have failed to recognise that chairs used for older children to sleep in are only suitable for very young babies, who are not able to sit unsupported. Despite this, children are happy and enjoy attending the creche. They develop good relationships with staff and show confidence and motivation during some activities. Staff support children's physical skills appropriately and provide opportunities, such as jumping up and down with a large parachute, outdoors.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Some children are not challenged to a high enough level and do not make enough progress in their learning. Despite this, they are curious learners who enjoy exploring. They use their hands to investigate coloured powder paint and enjoy finding objects of the same colour from around the room. They count the number of beads on the maze and on their toy vehicles. This provides them with some of the skills they require, in readiness for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY552306
Local authority	Redcar and Cleveland
Inspection number	10113320
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	79
Name of registered person	Tees Valley Women's Centre
Registered person unique reference number	RP552305
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01642 296166

Tees Valley Tots re-registered in 2017. The creche employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The creche opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 8.30am until 3.30pm. The creche provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children

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