

Inspection of Blaydon Youth Club Childcare

Blaydon Youth Club, Shibdon Road, BLAYDON-ON-TYNE, Tyne and Wear NE21 5LU

Inspection date: 4 February 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Staff greet parents and children warmly when they arrive at the entrance gate. Parents confidently leave their children in the care of staff who know them well. This helps children to feel safe and secure, and they settle quickly. Staff recognise there are children who need some additional encouragement. They are patient and nurturing in their approach towards them.

Children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), make good progress in their learning. They are able to access a range of activities and do so confidently. Children enjoy making play dough. They measure out the scoops of flour that they need and, in doing so, extend their mathematical skills. In the outdoor area, children practise the skills they need for early writing. For instance, they make circular movements when they paint on the large wall board. As they play and explore, children display positive attitudes to their learning.

All children are physically active and display high levels of independence in the outdoor area. They use the raised beams to balance, and climb the steps confidently to use the slide. Children are supported well to learn new skills. For example, staff support children to use scissors. They give them clear instructions on how to control them and praise them when they succeed.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Staff help children to become independent learners. For example, children pour their own drinks and help themselves to food at snack time. Children tidy up after themselves and take plates and cups to the sink. At lunchtime, children are confident to open their lunch boxes and ask for help where they need it.
- Staff take the time to get to know each child and their individual needs. Staff talk knowledgeably about children's unique personalities, including their interests, likes and dislikes. This information is used well, overall, to provide appropriate activities to support children's learning. However, there are times when children's learning is interrupted when daily routines take priority. Children do not always fully engage in their play at this time, to raise their achievements to the highest level.
- Staff promote children's confidence and self-esteem, and they praise them for their efforts. They encourage children to show their appreciation for each other, for example by thanking those who hand out plates and cups. During the morning session, children share how they feel during activities, such as 'thumbs up, thumbs down', and they discuss what is making them feel happy or sad. This helps children to talk about their feelings and supports their communication development.
- Staff working with children with SEND get to know them and their families well.

They form strong partnerships with other professionals to help children access appropriate support and to help them make good progress.

- Staff provide good opportunities for the children to be active and develop their large-muscle skills. Bicycles and other toy vehicles are provided that match the children's ability to balance, pedal or scoot. Painting and drawing activities support children to strengthen the muscles in their fingers and hands.
- Staff organise the environment so that children can access activities of their own choice, such as the home corner, jigsaws, painting or sand play. Children enjoy a range of learning opportunities. However, on occasion, staff do not provide further resources or support that will challenge and extend the older children's play and learning to an even higher level.
- Parents are happy with the setting. They comment on how much their child enjoys their time there and how they look forward to attending. Parents say that staff are friendly, approachable and supportive. They value the information staff share about what their child has enjoyed at the setting each day.
- The new manager is working with the leadership team to evaluate current practices and identify ways to strengthen and improve processes within the setting. She recognises the impact activities have on children's learning and describes the further changes she wishes to make to enhance the children's experiences.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff are knowledgeable about child protection and safeguarding issues. They know what action to take if they are concerned about a child's welfare. Furthermore, they are confident about the action they would take to report their concerns about the conduct of one of their colleagues. Staff have a secure knowledge of wider issues, such as county lines, exposure to extremist views and female genital mutilation. All staff hold paediatric first-aid certificates. There are robust recruitment procedures in place, and leaders are trained in safer recruitment. The setting environment is clean, safe and secure for children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- plan daily routines more effectively to minimise interruptions to children's learning and raise their achievements to a higher level
- support staff to use their good knowledge of children to consistently challenge and extend their learning further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY459065
Local authority	Gateshead
Inspection number	10214912
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 11
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	86
Name of registered person	Blaydon Youth Club Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP520481
Telephone number	0191 414 7849
Date of previous inspection	23 November 2016

Information about this early years setting

Blaydon Youth Club Childcare registered in 2013 and is located in Blaydon, Tyne and Wear. The setting employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold relevant qualifications at level 3 or above. The setting is open all year round from 7.15am to 6pm, Monday to Friday. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jane Bell

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector spoke to staff about their roles and responsibilities and how they support children's learning.
- A joint observation was carried out by the inspector and the manager and discussions were held about children's learning.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation, including evidence of staff's suitability and paediatric first-aid qualifications. The inspector also scrutinised the complaints folder, risk assessments, evidence of progress checks for children aged between two and three years, and a staff professional development folder.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector had a learning walk with the manager of the setting.

We carried out this inspection 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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