

Inspection of The Avenue Day Nursery Limited

The Avenue Day Nursery, 7 The Avenue, MIDDLESBROUGH, Cleveland TS5 6PA

Inspection date: 22 September 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

Children delight in being in this welcoming, safe and nurturing environment. Parents comment that their children do not turn around and wave, as they are so eager to meet their friends and for their learning to begin. Children are busy and full of excitement at the freedom they have to develop their curiosity.

Older children relish the openness in the outdoor environment. They show high levels of determination and have a go attitude to their learning. For example, children are unwavering in their resolve to complete an obstacle course without adult help. They work out for themselves how to manoeuvre crates and planks into position to enable continuous movements. Children's faces shine with delight as they achieve their goals.

Children's behaviour is very good. They show high levels of respect for each other, welcoming children into their play, happily sharing resources. This develops children's self-esteem as they understand that they are valued and their contributions are essential. Older children cheerfully tidy away resources, ensuring everything is returned to its correct place. Children enthusiastically take on responsibility for tasks. For example, they help to serve lunch, ensuring all children have food before sitting at the table themselves. Babies watch other babies with interest, inquisitive to see what others are doing and attempting to copy their actions.

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

- Staff know children very well. They confidently discuss where children are in their learning and what it is they want children to learn next. Staff plan activities to support children with their future development. For example, they move furniture to enable newly mobile babies to have the space to develop their skills of crawling.
- Staff are skilled in supporting children's communication and language. They know to get down to children's level as they speak to them and to speak slowly and clearly using the correct pronunciation. Staff tell children they are balancing as they walk along planks. They talk constantly to babies, describing what babies are doing. This helps to extend children's vocabulary from the very youngest ages.
- Staff recognise children's immediate needs. For example, when children show that they are tired, staff pick children up straightaway and cuddle them in. Staff use a quiet tone of voice as they sing rhymes and talk to children as they go to sleep. This helps children to feel safe and secure in the nursery.
- Children's love of books is fostered across the nursery. They cuddle babies as they point to pictures in books. Children confidently take books to staff, knowing

that they will be read. This helps to support children's emotional well-being and feelings of being valued.

- The management team and staff are proficient in supporting children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. They work in partnership with parents and other agencies to ensure that children and families get the help they need.
- Children in receipt of funding are very well supported and funding is targeted to meet their identified needs. For example, staff created a quiet area to enable children to have time out of the hustle and bustle of the nursery day. This has enabled children to settle more easily into the nursery.
- Parents are very complimentary about the nursery and the service it provides. In particular, parents stress how their children's confidence and independence skills have developed since beginning at the nursery.
- Staff enjoy working at the nursery. They are very well supported by the management team. For example, they have ongoing opportunities to engage in professional development to enhance their knowledge and practice. Developing staff knowledge helps children to benefit from a good range of learning experiences.
- The management team and staff do not fully consider how daily routines, for example routine nappy changing, interrupt children's play. This can prevent children from becoming totally absorbed in their tasks and hinders the development of their concentration skills.
- While some staff do bring mathematical language into children's play, they do not consistently maximise the opportunities to develop children's understanding of numbers and counting.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a secure understanding of their responsibilities to protect children. They know the procedures to follow if they have concerns about children's welfare, including protecting children from extremist views. The management team and staff ensure that the premises are secure at all times and any potential hazards to children's safety are identified and minimised. The management team and staff use robust policies and regular training to strengthen all aspects of safeguarding practice.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- review the organisation of some daily routines to ensure that all opportunities are consistently used to extend and develop children's learning even further
- support staff to develop consistency in using numbers and counting.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY446213
Local authority	Middlesbrough
Inspection number	10229607
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 at time of inspection	0 to 8
Total number of places	62
Number of children on roll	34
Name of registered person	The Avenue Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP907173
Telephone number	01642814368
Date of previous inspection	4 November 2016

Information about this early years setting

The Avenue Day Nursery Limited registered in 2012. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens from 7.30am to 5.45pm Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Denise Charge

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider 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 provider.
- The deputy manager and inspector completed a learning walk together. They observed activities in both the indoor and outdoor learning environments used by children.
- The inspector observed a focused activity and evaluated this with the deputy manager.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection. Children's records were looked at by the inspector along with a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- Evidence of staff qualifications and the suitability of all those working in the setting was checked by the inspector.
- The inspector spoke to parents at the nursery and took account of their views.

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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