

Inspection of Child's Play Private Nursery

The Sycamores, Throston Grange Lane, Hartlepool TS26 0UF

Inspection date: 14 October 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children develop warm, trusting relationships with staff, who are kind and caring. For instance, babies cuddle with staff as they contentedly drink their milk, and toddlers look to staff for reassurance. Children show that they feel happy, safe and well cared for. They develop good levels of confidence and self-esteem, and a willingness to try new activities. For instance, older children make a bug hotel using hammers and nails as they gain confidence and control over their physical abilities. Toddlers are confident to try new foods and particularly enjoy being creative. They experiment with play dough, adding natural resources to change the texture.

Children behave well. Pre-school children listen thoughtfully to each other's ideas as they discuss what they would like to play with. Babies watch their friends as they shake instruments. Children are aware of the rules and expectations of the nursery. They show high levels of motivation in their play and are valued by attentive staff. Children receive lots of opportunities to celebrate what makes them unique and to learn about those who may be different from them. For example, they talk about how to support their peers.

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

- Working with parents is a real strength of the nursery, and they are highly valued as partners. From the initial visit, staff work closely with parents to gather a large amount of information to ensure continuity from home. Parents are kept very well informed about every aspect of their child's progress. They are encouraged to contribute to children's learning from home. Staff share these contributions with children, which supports children's self-esteem.
- Parents speak very positively about the nursery. They comment that they are kept very well informed by dedicated staff and that staff will go the extra mile for children. They comment on 'the amazing environment' that is offered both inside and outside and 'the amazing staff team'.
- Managers and staff have a clear vision about their intention to provide an educational programme to support children's learning. They focus on encouraging children to develop their communication, language and social skills. For example, staff repeat words if children say them incorrectly, helping them to hear the correct pronunciation. Staff provide group times where children learn to share and take turns with others. However, occasionally, staff do not plan some group activities well enough. Background noise and distractions limit the children's concentration. Therefore, children do not benefit fully from the learning taking place.
- Staff are passionate and extremely eager to engage with children. There is a strong focus on building secure attachments and helping children to further develop their sense of belonging. Staff teach children the language of feelings

especially well. They help them to express their emotions through highly effective strategies. These include helping children to recognise, name and manage their feelings in different situations, including when conflict occurs.

- Staff have high expectations for all children. Overall, this ensures that children make good progress from their individual starting points in development and are well prepared for their future learning. However, at times, staff do not use spontaneous opportunities to extend and challenge children's learning even further.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported extremely well. Staff use effective teaching strategies to ensure children are supported to make the best possible progress. They are proactive in accessing external support for children and offer support to the whole family. Additional funding is used to ensure that any gaps in children's learning are closed rapidly.
- Leaders are motivated, ambitious and have a clear vision for the nursery. The manager evaluates the practice regularly and shows a strong commitment to continuous development. Staff feel valued and benefit from regular supervision sessions. They have opportunities to further their professional development through regular training and mentoring.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff have a very sound knowledge and understanding of how to ensure that children are kept safe. Staff understand the importance of collaborative working with other professionals. They are supported through training on various aspects of safeguarding at induction, through additional training and at staff meetings. Rigorous and robust recruitment procedures are in place for all staff. Staff undertake regular risk assessments of the nursery environment, and all issues are addressed. Staff support children to understand safety in their play, such as taking measured risks. For example, children discussed the need to be safe near the fire pit.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- review the negative impact of background distractions, to provide children with a learning environment that supports their speech development and attention skills
- help staff to recognise how to use spontaneous opportunities, to extend and challenge all children's learning even further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2595434
Local authority	Hartlepool Borough
Inspection number	10249211
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	0 to 4
Total number of places	72
Number of children on roll	55
Name of registered person	Wayman Developments Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP534922
Telephone number	01740 768110
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Childs Play Private Day Nursery registered in 2020 and is situated in Hartlepool. The nursery employs 14 members of childcare staff. Of these, 12 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Eileen Grimes

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 manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out joint observations of group activities with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

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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