

Inspection of Poppets Children's Day Nursery

Park End Children's Centre, Overdale Road, MIDDLESBROUGH, Cleveland TS3 0AA

Inspection date: 21 October 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 feel happy, safe and have fun at nursery. Their individual care needs are met by staff who provide a nurturing environment. Children are keen to explore the range of activities on offer. They happily play alongside their friends, behave well and understand the boundaries and staff's expectations. Staff give children lots of praise and encouragement. Children's confidence blossoms as staff listen to what they have to say and respond to the gestures of the babies and younger children. Babies are comfortable and secure in their environment. The staff are calm, soothing and attentive. This supports children's emotional well-being effectively.

Children know storylines well and excitedly join in as they repeat phrases from 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. Staff encourage children to be independent. For example, children collect their name card when they arrive. They enjoy carrying out small tasks allocated to them, such as helping to tidy away toys before lunch. Outside, older children soon become absorbed in their imaginative play. They fill cake trays and saucepans with mud and water and pretend to make a meal for their friends. They develop their physical skills as they climb, propel wheeled toys, and balance as they walk over the large tyres.

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

- Children are supported by practitioners who work well together as a team. They provide a curriculum that is sequenced to help build on what children know and can do. Staff share planning, observations and assessments of children's learning to help identify what children need to learn next. This includes the key skills that children need in preparation for school, such as being able to communicate clearly.
- Children develop an interest in books and enjoy listening to stories read by staff. In addition, they borrow books from the setting to read at home with their family. Staff carefully select books to introduce new words and concepts. This supports children's own ability to communicate and helps them to understand the world around them. Children regularly hear words and repetitive phrases, for example through rhymes and singing songs. Staff show a genuine interest in what children say. They use their good questioning skills to extend discussions with children and help to build on their vocabulary.
- Staff quickly identify any children who will benefit from additional support. They work closely with outside agencies and parents to make swift referrals, to ensure all children make the best possible progress they can. However, occasionally, targeted interventions recommended by other professionals in a child's life are not consistently implemented.
- Children have good opportunities to learn about the community they live in. For example, they go for walks and visit the local shops to buy pumpkins and

ingredients to make cakes. They learn about similarities and differences and the diversity of the world around them. Staff read stories to children to support their understanding of how each child's family is unique.

- Children engage in a wide range of exciting activities to support their understanding of the importance of good oral health. Older children display good control as they practise brushing their teeth. Staff demonstrate how to clean their teeth effectively and tell children they must remember to clean the backs of the teeth as well as the front. Staff ensure that they collate information from parents about children's individual dietary needs. However, they do not discuss with parents the importance of registering with a dentist to promote regular dental checks.
- Staff meet regularly as a team to share good practice and new ideas. They access mandatory training, such as safeguarding and paediatric first aid, and share ideas for additional training courses they are interested in. The manager is very involved and spends time in the rooms with the staff and children, providing support as needed.
- Parents spoken to value the positive relationships staff have developed with their children. They feel reassured that their children are safe and happy. Parents value the opportunity to speak with their children's key person in more detail about their children during parents' evening.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers and staff are aware of their responsibilities to protect children from harm. All staff have completed safeguarding training. They have a good understanding of the possible signs of abuse and how to respond in a timely and appropriate way. The management team regularly asks staff questions about safeguarding to check their knowledge is secure. Staff demonstrate a good understanding of the procedures in the event of an allegation being made against them or any other member of staff. The manager has a thorough recruitment process and induction procedure to ensure staff working with children are suitable.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- support staff to consistently implement planned activities recommended by other professionals, such as speech and language therapists
- develop methods for promoting the good oral health of children through links with parents.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY317086
Local authority	Middlesbrough
Inspection number	10259161
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 10
Total number of places	59
Number of children on roll	48
Name of registered person	Nunthorpe Nurseries Group Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP911209
Telephone number	01642 314 363
Date of previous inspection	16 February 2017

Information about this early years setting

Poppets Children's Day Nursery registered in 2006. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

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 inspector carried out a learning walk with the manager and discussed how the curriculum is delivered.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning. She spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with parents during the inspection 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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