

Inspection of Children's Choice Nursery

Norham Road, Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear NE26 3NR

Inspection date: 30 November 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	Outstanding
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children arrive happy and settle quickly at this welcoming nursery. They happily engage staff in their play and seek out cuddles for comfort when needed. This helps them to feel safe and secure. Children engage well in their learning. They develop independence and self-help skills throughout all activities. For example, pre-school children put on their own coats and toddlers start to feed themselves using a fork. This helps to develop children's confidence and raises their self-esteem.

Children enjoy accessing a wide range of interesting and exciting learning experiences. For example, inside, pre-school children nip, squeeze and prod play dough to develop their fine motor skills in readiness for early writing. Outside, they develop their large motor skills as they run around or use the see-saw and climbing frame. Children enthusiastically sing as they participate in ring games with staff. They learn new skills, such as throwing a ball through a hoop and show great delight when this is achieved.

Babies laugh and babble as staff get down to their level to play and interact with them. Staff encourage babies to say single words. They repeatedly name the toys that babies are playing with, encouraging the babies to copy.

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

- Managers and staff are proud of the supportive and inclusive environment they have worked hard to create. Staff know the children well. They carry out assessments and observations, planning the next steps of learning to help them to develop. All children, including those with additional needs, make good progress in their learning. The nursery's special educational needs coordinator and management team work well with other professionals. They devise tailored support plans with targets developed to suit children's individual needs, supporting them to make progress.
- Overall, staff interact well with children. They get down to their level, make good eye contact and ask children open-ended questions that support their thinking skills. However, occasionally staff do not recognise when the quieter and less confident children would benefit from their interaction to further support their learning and enjoyment to an even higher level.
- Children behave well and understand what is expected of them. For example, they know to line up before going outside and to wash their hands before lunch. Staff are good role models and offer gentle reminders, when needed, regarding behaviour boundaries. Younger children begin to make friends as they play alongside each other and show an interest in what other children are doing.
- Children's communication and language is supported well. Babies and toddlers

happily participate in sing and sign sessions. Pre-school children listen intently to stories and make comments about the characters in the book. Staff sit alongside children and provide time for them to talk about what they are doing. However, at times, staff do not recognise when to expand on what older children say by adding additional descriptive words to help widen their vocabulary.

- Children benefit from a range of physical development opportunities throughout the day. For example, babies practise using their fingers to operate interactive toys, and crawl freely to take toys they want to play with. The outdoor environment is valued as an extended learning area, providing children with many opportunities to explore and investigate and to participate in active and energetic play. Staff support all children throughout the nursery to learn the importance of good personal hygiene routines.
- The management team regularly observe staff practice and provide feedback on their strengths and areas they can improve. Staff benefit from regular supervisions and receive targeted support and training to help raise the quality of practice. Staff well-being is a high priority and, as a result, staff feel extremely well supported.
- Parents speak highly of the staff team and their commitment to provide the best possible care for their children. They share how confident their children have become since starting and are amazed by how well their children's language has developed. Parents value the regular updates staff provide about their child's ongoing progress. Staff make sure that strategies used to support children at nursery are shared with parents to support their child at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers and staff understand their roles to safeguard children. They can recognise the different types of abuse and the signs and symptoms that may indicate that a child is at risk of harm. They know procedures regarding allegations made against a staff member and who to contact in such an event. Staff undertake safeguarding training to ensure their knowledge is up to date. Recruitment and supervision procedures are robust, and staff are regularly checked to ensure they remain suitable to work with children. Staff adhere to the guidance and recommendations provided by health professionals to help reduce infection and to ensure children's safety and welfare is prioritised.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- enhance the already good practice in developing children's expressive language skills by expanding on what they say and using additional words when responding

- support staff to be more vigilant to identify when the quieter and less confident children would benefit from adult interaction to further enhance their enjoyment in learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	310206
Local authority	North Tyneside
Inspection number	10264897
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	100
Number of children on roll	135
Name of registered person	Children's Choice Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP903341
Telephone number	0191 2517699
Date of previous inspection	11 October 2019

Information about this early years setting

Children's Choice Nursery registered in 2000. The nursery employs 31 members of childcare staff. Of these, 21 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including three who hold a qualification at level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year, except for bank holidays. Sessions are from 8am 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 deputy 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 deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and deputy manager. 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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