

St. Gabriels Nursery

Chillingham Road, Heaton, Newcastle Upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear NE6 5SH



Inspection date	10 May 2019
Previous inspection date	16 May 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The newly appointed manager is experienced and well qualified. She is dedicated to her role and has worked hard with staff to raise the quality of the nursery. The management team has addressed all the actions set at the previous inspection.
- Staff observe children to find out what they know and can do. They use their knowledge of children's interests and abilities to support what they need to learn next. All children make good progress in their learning.
- Staff plan and provide a good range of stimulating activities for children. They use effective teaching strategies to promote children's learning. The quality of teaching is good and, in some rooms, such as the baby and toddler room, excellent.
- An effective key-person system helps children to quickly form positive relationships with staff. Staff collect appropriate and detailed information about children before they start. Children are very happy, settled and have secure attachments with staff.
- Staff work extremely well to meet the needs of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. They offer a very inclusive environment. Staff liaise well with other professionals. Together, they use additional funding and quickly establish any extra support or adjustments that are needed, based on each child's individual needs.
- The environment is motivating and very well organised. The outdoor area has been developed to provide excellent opportunities to ensure that children make their own discoveries, using open-ended, creative and natural materials.
- The management team completes accurate self-evaluation and has implemented detailed action plans. Required improvements to the nursery have been prioritised. However, opportunities to involve staff in the self-evaluation process could be enhanced further, particularly for staff that are new to the nursery.
- Overall, partnerships with parents are strong. Staff share regular information with them about their children's progress. Parents receive information through newsletters, access to an online system and daily feedback. However, there is scope to enhance how staff support parents to understand how their children learn through play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the opportunities for all staff to contribute more fully to the self-evaluation process
- enhance the support and information that staff offer to parents, to help parents understand how their children learn and develop through play.

Inspection activities

- The inspectors observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- One of the inspectors evaluated an activity with the manager.
- The inspectors held a meeting with the nursery manager. They looked at relevant documentation, including the nursery's development plan, records of staff monitoring and appraisals, planning and assessment documentation, and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspectors spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views. They also looked at the written views of parents.
- The inspectors spoke to the management team, staff and children throughout the inspection.

Inspectors

Melanie Vincent

Julie Foers

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The managers implement robust child protection procedures. They review accident and incident forms, and create risk assessments that help to reduce incidents reoccurring. All staff have a good knowledge of how to protect children. Managers complete regular appraisals and supervisory sessions with staff. Managers have introduced peer observations, to help develop staff's practice. Staff attend a wide range of professional development opportunities. They evaluate their learning and share information with others, to help to raise outcomes for children. A detailed induction programme provides good support and sets high standards.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Babies are offered a wealth of opportunities to explore and investigate using a range of different materials. They excitedly play and splash in water and develop their physical skills as they pour the water from one container to another. Toddlers concentrate as they explore different-sized rings and hoops. Staff use gestures, signs and visual timetables to develop children's understanding. They encourage older children to develop their imaginations. Staff join in with children's play, including using real fruit and vegetables to pretend to be in a greengrocer's shop. Children have many opportunities to learn about the world around them. They plant sunflowers and are excited to watch baby ducklings hatch from eggs in the nursery. Staff encourage all children to develop their early writing skills. Babies make marks in flour, toddlers paint using the wheels of toy cars and older children write their names and record the types of birds they see in the garden.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff successfully promote children's good behaviour. They encourage children to share, take turns and play cooperatively together. Staff recognise and praise children's achievements and support them to develop confidence. Children are offered healthy, home-cooked meals and snacks. Staff plan daily opportunities for children to exercise and ensure that they have plenty of opportunities for outdoor play. Parents are complimentary about the recent changes in the nursery. They comment that their children are very happy, stimulated and well cared for. Staff use innovative ways to help children understand the needs of others. For example, they send home a doll and resource pack that includes information to help children and their families understand about different disabilities.

Outcomes for children are good

Older children develop good mathematical knowledge and confidently count, recognise size and explore capacity when they play in the mud kitchen. Younger children solve problems as they balance ramps to roll balls down. Children have high levels of independence. Older children serve their own meals, and younger children wash their hands and learn to feed themselves. All children extend their communication and literacy skills. Babies babble and experiment with sounds, toddlers enthusiastically join in with familiar songs, and older children begin to recognise letters and the sounds they represent. All children develop the skills they need for the next stage in their learning and starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	319303
Local authority	Newcastle upon Tyne
Inspection number	10086711
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	120
Number of children on roll	171
Name of registered person	Kid 'N' Play Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP522224
Date of previous inspection	16 May 2018
Telephone number	01912 765 909

St. Gabriels Nursery registered in 1996 and is located in Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne. The nursery employs 41 members of childcare staff. Of these, 39 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one who holds early years professional status, one who holds early years teacher status and one who holds qualified teacher status. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery is open from 7.45am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, for 51 weeks of the year.

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