

Inspection of Hayley's Little Comets Day Nursery

2 Harris Street, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 7EZ

Inspection date: 4 April 2024

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 thoroughly enjoy spending time at this homely nursery. Staff build positive relationships with all children. They are attentive and nurturing in their approach. Children show that they feel safe and secure. They learn to be kind and considerate to one another. Staff set good expectations for children's behaviour and adapt their support according to the ages of the children. Well-structured routines and staff expectations help children to develop respect for others. Staff help children to learn how to interact with others and develop good social skills from an early age.

Staff plan a curriculum which enables children to make good progress in their development. Children eagerly explore the activities available. For example, younger children select their favourite books, which staff read to them. Staff provide children with a range of opportunities to be physically active. For instance, children are able to develop their gross motor skills as they climb up to the slide or play ball. Staff encourage children to be confident and independent. Children wash their hands before they eat their food, cut the fruit they eat for snack, and pour their own drinks. Children enjoy outings to parks and places of interest which helps them to learn about their local community and the wider world.

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

- Staff have high expectations for the children in their care. The curriculum is well planned and implemented. Staff have identified a set of specific skills that they want each child to achieve before they move on to the next stage in their learning. These skills help to give all children the foundations they need to make good progress in their learning.
- The provision for children's personal, social and emotional development is a strength. As a result, children are developing resilience and independence. Children are taught to identify and manage their own feelings and communicate these to adults if they need help. There is an effective key-person system in place. Staff have a good knowledge of their key children's interests, skills and abilities.
- Overall, children's communication skills are promoted well. Staff's interactions with children are positive and support them to make good progress, including those children who speak English as an additional language. However, sometimes staff do not always make the most of opportunities to extend children's conversations and vocabulary as they play alongside them.
- Staff provide a range of activities to encourage children's physical development. All children enjoy time outdoors to support their physical skills and well-being. They confidently explore their environment, build their strength and develop coordination and balance.
- Children have opportunities to develop their mathematical understanding. For

example, staff count with younger children as they use large tweezers to transfer items. Staff know children well and know what they want them to learn next, such as being able to identify colours or recognise numbers. However, occasionally, staff miss opportunities to extend learning even further to challenge more able children.

- There is good support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. The manager ensures that staff have the skills and knowledge they need to offer effective support that helps to close any gaps in children's development. The manager makes effective use of the services available to help families in order to ensure children thrive.
- Parent partnerships are strong. They say their children enjoy attending and have made good progress in their development. They value the feedback they receive from staff daily and the regular updates staff provide about children's development through the use of an app. This helps to provide continuity in children's learning.
- The manager supports the staff team well. There are regular supervision sessions, which gives staff an opportunity to talk about their key children and to identify training needs. The manager oversees staff practice and checks there are no changes to their continued suitability. There are good levels of support provided for staff's well-being.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

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 have high-quality interactions with children, so that they consistently promote children's speech and language development
- develop the way staff differentiate activities, to help provide further challenge to the most able children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2656533
Local authority	Stoke-on-Trent
Inspection number	10333014
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 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	14
Name of registered person	Midland Box Office Limited
Registered person unique reference number	2656534
Telephone number	07835124960
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Hayley's Little Comets Day Nursery registered in 2021. It is located in Stoke-on-Trent. The nursery employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3, and one holds qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and one week at Christmas. Sessions are from 7.30am until 5.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Jacqueline Coomer

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 pandemic. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the setting and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector and the manager completed a learning walk across all areas of the nursery to understand how the early years provision and the curriculum is organised.
- A joint observation of a teaching activity was carried out by the inspector and the deputy manager.
- The inspector held discussions with staff, and spoke to children at appropriate times during the inspection. The inspector took account of the views of parents.
- The inspector looked at a sample of relevant records and documentation. This included evidence about staff suitability and training.
- Meetings were held between the inspector, the manager and the deputy manager.

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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