

Swarland Pre-School Group Limited

Swarland County First School, Swarland, MORPETH, Northumberland
NE65 9JP



Inspection date	25 January 2019
Previous inspection date	25 November 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 manager regularly evaluates the provision. Furthermore, she frequently reviews the quality of staff's teaching practice. This information enables her to target areas for improvement. For example, behaviour management training has helped staff to devise strategies to positively manage and support age-related behaviour.
- Staff regularly complete good-quality observations and assessments of children's development, overall. They have a clear picture of individual children's progress and plan activities to progress their learning to the next level.
- Children develop a good understanding of managing their own care needs. For example, they independently wipe their noses and wash their hands after using the toilet.
- Children are independent learners as they confidently explore the learning environment.
- The manager has good procedures in place to track individual children's development. However, she has not yet fully developed monitoring systems to help her to precisely identify gaps in learning for different groups of children.
- Staff do not consistently make the best use of opportunities to broaden children's knowledge and understanding of the differences between themselves and people in the wider community.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor the achievement of different groups of children to help ensure all children continue to make consistent and sustained progress
- strengthen further children's understanding and knowledge of differences between themselves and people in the wider community.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff, parents and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and, afterwards, reflected on the effectiveness of the activity.
- The inspector took account of the views of the parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including policies and procedures, first-aid certificates and children's learning records.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.

Inspector

Amanda Hartigan

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager and staff have a very secure understanding of safeguarding procedures and they regularly update their child protection knowledge and skills. They know the correct reporting processes to follow if they should have any concerns about a child's safety or welfare. Safeguarding is effective. Partnerships with parents are particularly strong. Staff keep parents regularly updated and involved in all aspects of their children's care. Parents say they feel valued and well informed about their child's learning. Parents are highly complimentary about the setting. For example, parents comment that the manager and staff are brilliant, caring and considerate. The manager and staff have forged very close relationships with the host school and with other professionals. This helps staff to meet all children's needs very well.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The manager and staff have developed good systems to gain a detailed understanding of individual children's learning needs. This helps staff plan a wide range of activities based on children's emerging interests. Staff provide many opportunities for children to develop creative skills. For instance, children giggle and laugh as they interact with nursery rhyme songs. They devise their own actions as they tip-toe around the circle and then take great delight in stomping like elephants. Staff effectively enhance children's communication and language skills. This is demonstrated as younger children confidently use sign language to communicate. Older children communicate confidently with their peers and staff.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have developed warm and caring relationships with staff, which positively support and strengthen their emotional needs. Children's manners are very good and they help each other during their play. Staff frequently praise children's endeavours. This helps to promote children's personal and emotional well-being. Staff manage behaviour effectively and consistently, which helps younger children to understand clear boundaries. Staff provide many opportunities for children to learn about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. For instance, they enjoy fresh fruit, snacks and milk during morning break, and freshly cooked meals at lunchtime.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and development. They have developed close friendships with their peers, listening carefully to each other's views and sharing cooperatively. This is demonstrated as children role play with a doctor's uniform, taking turns to listen to each other's hearts with a stethoscope. Children are gaining a good knowledge of mathematical language. Staff ask challenging questions, such as which number is larger. Children are positively acquiring the skills and attitudes ready for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY388490
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	10065200
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	0 - 8
Total number of places	19
Number of children on roll	23
Name of registered person	Swarland Pre-School Group Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP519490
Date of previous inspection	25 November 2015
Telephone number	01670 783323

Swarland Pre-School Group Limited registered in 2009 and is managed by a limited company. It operates within Swarland First School in Morpeth. There are six members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 4, three hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 2. The pre-school opens on Monday to Friday during term time only, from 9am until 3pm. It provides funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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