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## **Prestigious award heaps praise on Nursery**

Northumbria University Nursery has been lauded with another award in recognition of its new building.

The £1.5m nursery building which will soon celebrate its first birthday, has helped the team clinch the Nursery World Business Development Award 2013 – beating off competition from two London-based nurseries.

The Nursery World judges were particularly keen to commend the new setting for ‘meeting the needs of the community and commitment to

development.’

Executive childcare manager, Deborah Thorpe said: “This is a real coup for the team and recognises the hard work, innovation and dedication everyone has put in towards establishing the nursery in our new building.

“We are all really proud of how far we’ve come in such a short space of time. For more than 20 years, we were based in a ‘temporary’ Portakabin with spaces for just 30 children. We now have room for almost 100 children within an environment that is purpose-built, ecologically-aware and provides a fun and exciting setting for young children to play and learn.”

The new building has allowed the team to expand its services to parents and children. Alongside providing University students with a practical setting to complement teaching on the early year’s degree programmes, the team has been able to expand its services to respond to customer needs. This has included extended working hours and provision for school-holiday care.

Deborah added: “We’ve always provided first-class care to the children we are entrusted to look after. However, our new building has really reinvigorated the nursery. With our links to the early year’s degree programmes, we remain at the forefront of new thinking and developments in childcare. This is an exciting time for the Nursery and this latest award provides a real boost to all the team.”

For more information on Northumbria University, Newcastle’s Nursery, please visit: <http://nursery.northumbria.ac.uk/>

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