

Heatherside Pre-School

Heatherside Community Centre, Martindale Avenue, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 1BB



Inspection date	28 January 2015
Previous inspection date	30 June 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- All staff have a clear understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. Children are effectively protected from harm as staff demonstrate a good knowledge and understanding of their responsibilities.
- Staff receive regular supervision and appraisal sessions to monitor practice and to plan for future training needs. Most of the staff hold relevant childcare qualifications. This has a positive impact on the good quality of teaching children experience.
- Children enjoy nutritious snacks and are aware of the importance of a healthy diet and the need to drink water regularly.
- Children help themselves to tissues to blow their nose and know to use hand gel afterwards to keep their hands clean.
- Staff make learning fun and set realistic challenges for children so that they are confident and motivated to take part and learn.
- Children learn how to keep themselves safe. For example, they learn how to use small tools, such as scissors, safely and how to climb and balance on play equipment.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not maximise all opportunities to promote children's pre-writing and writing skills.
- Occasionally, large group times are not always fully effective in supporting younger children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of large group activities to make sure that they are suitable to fully engage all children
- maximise all opportunities to develop children's emerging writing skills, such as having writing materials readily available in role-play areas.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the inside learning environment.
- The inspector conducted joint observations with the supervisor.
- The inspector held a meeting with the supervisor, and took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the staff working with the children, and the provider's self-evaluation form.

Inspector

Hazel Farrant

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The management and staff team have a very secure understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and their role in supporting children's learning and development. Children are happy, safe and enjoy learning in this interesting and welcoming environment. As a result, they are making good progress. The quality of teaching is rooted in a good knowledge of how children learn. Staff support children's communication and language development well. They encourage children to use lots of language in everything they do and give them plenty of time to think through ideas for themselves. Although, older children sit and listen with interest to the story at the end of the session, some of the children find it difficult to concentrate for long. As a result, some of the younger children get restless and do not fully engage in the activity.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

The key-person system is working very well and is highly effective in supporting children's emotional well-being. As a result, children settle quickly, are confident and learn how to be independent. For example, they put on their own shoes, pour their own drinks and help to prepare fruit to eat at snack time. Staff are good role models and provide effective boundaries for children. They know the children really well and treat them as individuals. Children visit the local schools at regular intervals and get to know the teachers. This helps them to prepare well for their move onto the next stage in their learning and for school. Children enjoy easy access to a wide range of good quality resources and activities. They have many opportunities to practise writing and to make marks, although writing materials are not readily available for them to explore in all areas of their free play. Children enjoy playing outside in the fresh air each day, using the outdoor play area and going on local visits.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The management and staff team effectively fulfil their responsibilities in meeting all of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The effective monitoring of practice, and the evaluation of its impact, ensures children make good progress. The self-evaluation process is well established. The management and staff have a clear vision for the pre-school, with a real sense of purpose and direction. The staff team work very hard together in transforming the areas that children use into a bright, colourful and rich learning environment. They establish effective partnerships with parents. Detailed assessments and regular discussions ensure parents are fully involved in their child's learning. Parents spoken to on the day of the inspection report that they are very happy with the quality of care and learning their children receive.

Setting details

Unique reference number	120065
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	840302
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	48
Number of children on roll	60
Name of provider	Heatherside Pre School Committee
Date of previous inspection	30 June 2010
Telephone number	01276 63208

Heatherside Pre-School registered in 1981. It is managed by a voluntary management committee, made up of parents of children at the pre-school and members of the local community. All children share access to an outdoor play area. Two groups run in the morning from 8.50am to 11.50am, Monday to Friday, the third group runs in the afternoon from 1pm to 4pm, Wednesday and Friday. There is also a lunch session for children from the age of three from 11.50am to 12.50pm for the morning sessions and 12 noon to 1pm for the afternoon sessions. The pre-school operates during school term times. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three, and four. There are 12 staff who work directly with the children, of whom 10 hold recognised early years qualifications.

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