

The Shore Pre-School

Foxcott Close, Southampton, Hampshire, SO19 9JQ



Inspection date

2 February 2015

Previous inspection date

6 November 2008

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The strong leadership team effectively oversee the excellent systems for the safe and successful running of the pre-school. All those involved are committed to provide a fully inclusive service and exemplary reflective evaluation brings about continuous improvements for children.
- The high number of staff and effective organisation of the pre-school means children receive excellent support. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities benefit greatly from the one-to-one support they receive.
- Staff underpin the exceptional educational programmes through their high expectations of themselves and the children. They have an expert knowledge and understanding of how children learn.
- A well-established key-person system helps children to form secure attachments. This promotes children's well-being very effectively and provides a strong base for their learning.
- Staff provide children with a very good range of exciting, challenging activities that encourage their natural curiosity to learn. The learning environment is well organised, enabling children to be independent in their play.
- Staff give children's language development very high priority. Confident, skilled staff extend children's listening skills and vocabulary very effectively. As a result, all children, including those learning English as an additional language, are developing excellent communication and language skills.
- The highly effective partnerships with parents, external agencies and other providers ensure children's individual needs are met quickly, and they are extremely well prepared for the next stages in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance further the opportunities for children to use and explore resources, that extend their already good understanding of information and communication technology.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the main rooms and the outdoor area.
- The inspector had discussions with staff, children, parents and chair of the committee.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the deputy.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including children's records, staff suitability and safeguarding procedures, self-evaluation and action plans.

Inspector

Jacqueline Munden

Inspection findings

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

Children bound into the pre-school excited to see their friends and the staff. The sessions are an excellent balance of child-initiated and adult-led activities. Staff plan small group times highly effectively to meet each child's individual learning needs, which ensures children are interested and remain focused. Children learn excellent skills for their future learning. Staff make sure an extensive range of rich and varied activities and resources are available at all times. Children are confident in exploring these, which means they take the lead in their learning and enjoyment. Staff expertly extend children's interests and learning as they engage in role play. For example, staff suggest children pretending to be pirates make a map and hats, which promotes their early writing skills and creative development. Staff use excellent methods, such as signs and pictures, to engage with all children and to promote communication skills. On occasions, staff do not plan highly effectively to extend children's skills in using information and communication technology.

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

Staff have a particularly in-depth knowledge of each child, their home backgrounds, the professionals involved in their life, and their very specific needs. Staff forge excellent communication and build trust with parents, as they make home visits and regularly exchange information. Children respond very well to the positive reinforcement and encouragement from staff who skilfully guide children towards playing cooperatively. Staff promote effective hygiene practices and healthy lifestyles at all times. Children enjoy healthy snacks and parents are encouraged to support the healthy lunchbox policy. Children benefit enormously from the time they spend outdoors and from the high levels of physical activity available to them. Children learn exceptionally positive skills to build friendships and their self-care. As a result, all children display great confidence, develop high levels of self-esteem and are well prepared for school. Children learn to keep safe as they follow the pre-school's rigorous safety routines, such as headcounts as children move to and from the playground.

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

The management team has an extremely secure understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. All staff have attended child protection and first-aid training. This means that they can deal with accidents in an emergency and are confident in the procedures to follow to address any child protection concerns. Management follow highly effective systems to ensure the ongoing suitability of staff and to promote their professional development. Therefore, staff are well trained and have the skills to support all children including specific groups, such as the two-year-olds. Management follow very effective systems to monitor children's learning and quickly identify any particular needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	148858
Local authority	Southampton
Inspection number	841853
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	58
Name of provider	The Shore Pre School Committee
Date of previous inspection	6 November 2008
Telephone number	023 8043 1198 07790 423 079

The Shore Pre-School registered in 2000. It is managed by a voluntary management committee and operates from a building within the Shore community rooms in Weston Shore Infant School. There is a fully enclosed area for outdoor play. The pre-school is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The pre-school opens five days a week during school term times from 8.45am until 11.45am and from 12.15pm until 3.15pm. Children may stay for an optional lunch club between 11.45am and 12.15pm. The manager holds a relevant early years qualification at level 5 and the 11 staff all hold a relevant early years qualification at level 3. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years.

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