

Shenley Lodge Pre-School

5 Faraday Drive, Shenley Lodge, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK5 7DE



Inspection date	5 February 2015
Previous inspection date	24 January 2011

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

- Children benefit from the opportunity to engage in prolonged periods of uninterrupted play and learning, both indoors and outdoors. As a result, children are excited to learn and enjoy their time at pre-school.
- Staff have high expectations for all children. They get to know them well and encourage them to learn new skills. As a result, all children, including those with additional needs, make good progress towards the Early Learning Goals.
- Staff encourage children to manage their own personal needs and children learn to make choices and be independent.
- Parents are well informed about their children's progress. They appreciate all that the staff do to ensure their children are safe and happy.
- The provider and the manager are committed to providing high quality care and education. They regularly review all aspects of their work, and make changes and improvements that benefit all the children who attend the pre-school.
- Staff work together as a very effective team. They appreciate opportunities to learn new skills and share their expertise with colleagues via regular team meetings.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always ensure that all adult-led activities are as well planned as they could be. As a result, some children become distracted during these activities.

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 adult-led activities to ensure they consistently capture and maintain children's imagination and interest.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff about their understanding of child protection, safeguarding and first aid.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies and children's records.

Inspector

Sarah Holley

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is good. Staff routinely observe all children. They use this information to build accurate pictures of each child's current stage of development, and then plan activities that interest them and help them learn new skills. They meet the different needs of different groups of children very well. Those who enjoy playing inside re-enact past experiences using the well-equipped home corner. Those children who prefer to be outdoors benefit from similar opportunities and make pretend drinks in the 'mud kitchen'. Most activities are well planned and, as a result, most children are motivated and excited to learn. However, on occasion, staff do not plan activities as thoroughly as they could and then, some children become distracted and less engaged in their learning while waiting for staff to find the right story or music. Parents are kept well informed about their children's progress through regular written updates, informal conversations and more formal parent evenings. As a result, staff and parents are able to work together, and children make good progress in their learning and development.

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

Children enjoy being at pre-school and build strong bonds with the welcoming and kind staff. They learn to share and take turns. Mealtimes are happy, social occasions and staff make good use of these opportunities to teach children about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. Staff are well deployed, and resources readily available so children can quickly find what they would like to do, both inside or outside. As a result, children become very involved in their play and learn to problem solve and explore, and these characteristics equip them well for their future learning. Staff understand what they must do to keep children safe. They ensure that the pre-school is a secure, safe and a fun place to be, and children grow in confidence and self-believe in such a positive environment.

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

Leaders and managers understand their responsibilities to implement the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They take account of the views of staff, parents and children when reviewing and improving what they offer, and share their vision with staff through regular discussions. All staff are aware of how to safeguard children and what they would do if they were concerned about a child's welfare. The manager understands that all children are different, with some needing more help than others as they progress towards the early learning goals. She ensures that staff have opportunities to reflect upon their performance and gain new skills that they can share with their colleagues. All staff are then able to support all children, including those with additional needs. Children flourish because everyone involved in the care and education work together to achieve the best possible outcomes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	141779
Local authority	Milton Keynes
Inspection number	846576
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	67
Name of provider	Shenley Lodge Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	24 January 2011
Telephone number	01908 559199

Shenley Lodge Pre-school was registered in 1983. It operates from shared premises in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. The pre-school is open from 9am to 4pm each weekday, during term time only. It receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four. There are 11 staff working with the children, of these seven hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 3, one holds a Foundation Degree and one holds Early Years Professional Status.

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