

RAF Brize Norton Pre-School



Stanmore Crescent, Carterton, Oxfordshire, OX18 3UG

Inspection date	9 February 2015
Previous inspection date	30 November 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

- Staff provide good support for children's key areas of development, preparing them well for their next stage of learning and eventual move to school.
- Children gain a good understanding of how to keep themselves safe and healthy.
- Children gain independence because staff encourage them to take responsibility and manage age-appropriate tasks, which prepares them well for school.
- The indoor learning environment is appealing and well thought out for all children to enjoy. It is well resourced with a good range of equipment and activities to promote all areas of learning.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents report that they value the support and reassurance they receive from the pre-school.
- Self-evaluation arrangements are effective. All staff, children and parents contribute to the ongoing priorities to drive improvement.
- Children form warm and loving relationships with the staff who care for them each day, helping them develop strong bonds and meeting their emotional well-being.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The outdoor environment does not provide children with as many exciting experiences and activities, as indoors, to extend and enhance their learning.
- Staff do not consistently take every opportunity to extend and challenge children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- further develop staff's questioning techniques to consistently extend and challenge children's learning
- improve the outdoor play space to provide a wide and exciting range of experiences across all areas of learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed all age groups playing indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector observed staff and talked with them about children's care, learning and development.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of the parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records and planning documentation. She also checked evidence of the suitability of staff and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures to safeguard children's welfare.

Inspector

Amanda Perkin

Inspection findings

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

Overall, the quality of teaching is good, although some staff are more confident than others at using questioning to fully extend and challenge children in their learning. All staff provide a regular narrative to support children's play in group activities. They ask some questions, sing songs, play games and model counting and letter sounds. This supports communication, language and mathematical development. However, opportunities to expand children's existing language skills are sometimes lost during conversations, in particular during group activities. Staff use their good knowledge of children to plan an exciting range of experiences that build on what children know. Staff celebrate children's achievements displaying their creations prominently. Children are actively involved in their own learning as staff discuss and display children's individual next steps in learning. Children enjoy books independently. They are confident communicators and develop good listening skills.

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

Staff support children's emotional well-being well. Children form close bonds with their key person and they are attentive to change to family routines, for example when a parent is posted abroad to work. Staff support children really well in gaining independence and being prepared for school. Strong partnerships with the school further support children's emotional well-being and learning experiences. Staff organise the inside area effectively, using low-level containers, which enable children to make independent choices. They plan for children to use the indoor and outdoor environments every day. Children remain at activities because staff make them fun and match them to children's individual interests. Children enjoy playing outside daily which helps to promote their physical development. However, the planning for outdoors is not as thorough, as some of the resources are tired and uninspiring for the children, with limited opportunities to explore the natural world.

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

The leadership team has a good understanding of their responsibilities, and meets all the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. All staff complete first-aid training. This enables them to deal with accidents and other emergencies quickly and efficiently. All staff are aware of how to safeguard children and where to raise any concerns. The manager carries out regular staff supervisions to monitor the quality of teaching and identifies and organises regular staff training to improve outcomes for children. Self-evaluation processes are well embedded and include parents' views. Staff provide parents with the opportunity to record observations of their children's significant achievements at home. Parents comment positively on the good communication with pre-school. Leaders use robust recruitment and induction procedures to ensure all staff have appropriate suitability checks.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY281461
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	837455
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	74
Name of provider	RAF Brize Norton Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	30 November 2011
Telephone number	01993 897215

RAF Brize Norton Pre-School registered in 1999. The pre-school is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The pre-school opens each weekday during term-time. There are daily sessions for three to five year olds from 8.30am to 11.30am, and for rising threes from 12.15pm to 2.45pm. There are ten staff working with the children, of whom seven have early years qualifications to at least level 3 and one staff holds Qualified Teacher Status. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education to children aged three and four.

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