

Newbottle and Charlton Pre-School



Charlton Memorial Hall, Main Street, Charlton, Banbury, Oxfordshire, OX17 3DL

Inspection date

12 February 2015

Previous inspection date

16 July 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- The quality of teaching is good. Children are provided with a warm, welcoming and stimulating learning environment in which they are happy, eager and motivated to learn. All children make good progress from their starting points, as a result they are well prepared for the next stage in their learning or their move onto school.
- Communication between staff and children is warm and expressive. This means children are able to use and extend their vocabulary with confidence, exploring activities and ideas more fully.
- Successful partnerships between staff, parents and the local school ensure information about children is shared regularly.
- Staff demonstrate a clear knowledge and understanding of their role and responsibilities with regards to safeguarding and protecting children. As a result, children's well-being and safety are effectively promoted.
- Leadership and management are enthusiastic and motivating. Consequently, the staff team have high aspirations for quality and the ongoing development of the pre-school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always use daily routines and conversations to extend children's learning about the benefits of leading healthy lifestyles.
- Opportunities for staff to share good practice through coaching and observing each other, are not yet fully implemented.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- maximise opportunities to teach children about the importance of physical exercise and maintaining a healthy diet and the effects this has on their overall well-being
- support staff to reflect on the quality of their teaching and the impact of this on children's learning, for example, by using peer observations and coaching to share good practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning in both the indoor and outside learning environment.
- The inspector and the deputy manager conducted a joint observation.
- The inspector spoke with the head teacher of the primary school.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and chairperson of the committee. She spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures to safeguard children's welfare.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the staff working with the children and the provider's self-evaluation and development plans.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Linda Newcombe

Inspection findings

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

Children are confident and capable learners who are keen to communicate with each other and adults. They learn through a range of planned and spontaneous activities. Children learn about different shapes and relate these to objects they see in the environment. Staff use questions and discussion to promote the development of children's critical thinking skills. They skilfully use stories to support children to develop their understanding of danger. As a result, children learn to solve problems and think of solutions themselves. Children show strong levels of freedom to explore all activities on offer. They are confident to find something of interest and show high levels of engagement in their chosen activity. Children enjoy free access to an outside area where they relish practising their baking skills, as they make 'cakes' in the 'mud kitchen'. Children naturally include staff in their play and chat confidently to them about what they are doing. Good staff deployment ensures that all children are supported during activities. Also, learning is tailored by children's individual needs.

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

Settling-in procedures are well planned and offer flexibility to parents. As a result, children settle quickly and are confident to explore their new environment. Children's growing independence and developing self-care skills are well supported. Staff use daily routines and ongoing discussions to help children understand the importance of good hygiene practices. Children's behaviour is well managed. Staff are calm and sensitive in their approach to dealing with any unwanted behaviour. Children bring packed lunches and staff provide a variety of healthy snacks and drinks. Staff sit and share their lunch with the children. They sometimes miss opportunities to maximise children's learning about good health by talking to them about healthy lifestyles and the effects food and exercise can have on their bodies. Children benefit from plenty of fresh air and exercise as they have continuous access to the outside area where they practise a range of physical skills.

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

The management team has established excellent links with the feeder school. All staff have undertaken further training and support opportunities. As a result, they have made significant improvements since the last inspection. Good induction procedures means that policies regarding health and safety are understood and adhered to effectively. Children's safety is maintained and their well-being is promoted. The quality of teaching is monitored through staff appraisals and targeted professional development. Further strategies, such as peer observations, to share good practice between staff, are not yet fully established. Self-evaluation is accurate and clearly outlines their strengths and weaknesses. Parents comment on the effective use of newsletters, in sharing ideas on what the children are learning and how they can further support their learning at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	220293
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	984064
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	19
Name of provider	Charlton Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	16 July 2014
Telephone number	01295 812909

Newbottle and Charlton Pre-School was registered in 1992. The group employs three members of childcare staff. All members of staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and 4. The group opens from Monday to Friday term time only. Sessions are from 9am to 3pm. The group provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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