

Swallows Nest Pre-School

St George's Church Community Hall, Eastbrook Road, Lincoln, Lincolnshire, LN6 7EP



Inspection date

13 February 2015

Previous inspection date

28 March 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

- The quality of teaching is good. Staff provide children with interesting, enjoyable learning opportunities which motivate them to join in and that help them to make good progress in readiness for their eventual move to school.
- Children form sound relationships with the staff who care for them each day. This means that staff always meet children's individual needs well and children form strong attachments to them.
- Staff are well trained in safeguarding and child protection and have a good understanding of how to recognise signs which may give rise to concerns. Staff help children to be aware of safety issues and explain things to them carefully.
- The pre-school has excellent partnerships with parents, which supports children's learning at home and at the setting.
- There is an effective key-person system in place, which supports the emotional well-being of the children and encourages them to develop their independence.
- Staff understand the children's needs well. They assess children's skills accurately, putting additional support in place if needed. This attention means all children progress well given their abilities on entry.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff have not fully considered how best to build on the good teaching and learning that takes place inside, when children play outdoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build further on the good teaching and learning that takes place in doors when children spend time outside by, for example, reviewing how the outdoor area is equipped and used.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the pre-school including the outdoor area used by children.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector examined a sample of policies, paperwork and other documents.
- The inspector discussed the setting's self-evaluation process and how children's progress is assessed.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the deputy manager.

Inspector

Jane Rushby

Inspection findings

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

All staff understand how children learn and develop. They use children's interests to plan stimulating activities which cover all areas of learning. For example, staff set up a Chinese food-tasting activity after discussions with children. Children benefit from a good mix of adult-led activities and some they freely choose for themselves. Staff are fully aware of what each child needs to tackle next to make good progress. The staff carry out progress checks for children, so that they are knowledgeable about any gaps in learning. A range of activities helps children to develop their reading and writing skills well in readiness for school. Staff speak clearly and promote discussion through good questioning. Staff incorporate counting and number sequencing during group time. As a result, children are developing their mathematical skills. Parents comment that staff keep them informed about their child's learning and they are able to share information about children's achievements at home.

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

The environment indoor is stimulating and welcoming. Staff praise children and build their self-esteem. Children behave well. Older children often look after the younger ones, which develops their sense of responsibility and kindness. Staff use good hygiene and safety practices to keep children well and safe at pre-school. Staff have discussed healthy lunchbox content with parents, which has developed children's learning about healthy eating. Children have opportunities to be active and engage in physical play in the outdoor area. However, staff have not fully considered how the outdoor area is equipped and used to build even further on the good teaching and learning that takes place indoors. Nevertheless, children happily explore outdoors and make good use of the resources available. Staff act as good role models, helping children to develop their social skills. They remind children to use good manners, modelling the language and giving gentle reminders to share, when there is a need.

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

The management team have a very strong understanding of the learning and development requirements. All risks are reviewed to ensure there are no hazards in the environment. Leaders are committed to improving the quality of the provision. Therefore, this ensures that all children make the very best progress. The committee have effective arrangements in place for the recruitment, and supervision of staff. There are robust systems to check staff are suitable to work with children. Regular training ensures staff improve their skills. Contact with other early years settings and support agencies enables ideas and information to be shared. This sharing has a positive impact on improving teaching and learning. Parents' views are valued to help improve the provision. Staff provide parents with regular opportunities to discuss their children's progress and ways of supporting learning at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	253511
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	866752
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	26
Name of provider	Swallow Nest Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	28 March 2011
Telephone number	07808 021505 - setting mobile phone

Swallows Nest Pre-School was registered in 1993. It is managed by a committee. The pre-school employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, five staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at Level 3, and one member of staff has Qualified Teacher Status. The pre-school opens Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9.30am to 1.30pm and on a Friday runs from 9.30am to 12.30pm, term time only. The pre-school provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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