

North Leigh Pre-School

Park Road, North Leigh, Witney, Oxfordshire, OX29 6SS



Inspection date

2 March 2015

Previous inspection date

7 July 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 quality care in a welcoming, friendly and safe environment, where children settle quickly and engage well in their play and learning.
- Children benefit from some well-focused adult-led activities that promote specific skills in different areas of learning, such as art activities and story times.
- The quality of teaching is consistent across the staff team. Staff support children's freely chosen play successfully and use good quality interactions to promote their learning and language skills.
- Staff focus effectively on supporting children's personal, social and emotional development, and this helps develop children's emotional well-being.
- Partnerships with parents are strong, which successfully promotes continuity in children's care and learning between the home and the pre-school.
- The manager and staff team reflect successfully on their practice in order to drive ongoing improvements.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always consistently build on children's knowledge by linking related activities during the session to help children make more connections in their learning.
- Children enjoy outdoor play for some of the session but this is not always available at the beginning of the day, particularly in colder weather.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage children to reflect and build on what they have learnt during previous activities to strengthen their understanding of concepts and make more connections in their learning
- review the time available for outdoor play to give children more opportunities to be outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and children's key persons.
- The inspector looked at children's development records, the pre-school's self-evaluation form and staff training and recruitment records.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and from the pre-school's parent questionnaires.

Inspector

Gill Little

Inspection findings

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

Children choose freely from a wide range of resources and they show a positive approach to learning. Staff support them well, overall, playing alongside them, explaining, making suggestions and extending discussions to help them develop a range of skills. Children became very excited during a whole group activity about a runaway train using the interactive whiteboard. Staff helped them to recognise numbers and to talk about the language of time to promote their mathematical development. They ignited children's imaginations by pretending they were going on a journey to the seaside, copying actions to music. However, staff do not always link activities together during the session to make the most of children's enthusiasm and maximise their learning. The staff team works well together to monitor children's development and to identify their individual learning needs in order to help them make good progress. Staff work in close partnership with parents, such as providing informative well presented daily diaries, which parents value highly. They also work closely with the on-site school to help children transfer confidently to their next stages in their education.

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

Staff support children well on arrival in the pre-school and throughout the sessions. They provide the newer and younger children with additional attention and reassurance, where necessary, to help them feel settled and secure. Staff are good role models and help children to resolve any disputes calmly and quickly. They use lots of praise and encouragement to promote children's confidence and self-esteem. Staff use sensitive reminders to encourage children to play carefully around each other. Children learn about the importance of healthy lifestyles through well-organised snack and lunch routines. They enjoy outdoor play for some of the session but this is not always available at the beginning of the day, particularly in colder weather.

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

The manager demonstrates strong leadership skills and a clear understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She carries out comprehensive project plans to make improvements, such as developing the outdoor environment to include a mud kitchen, large sandpit and early writing resources. The committee supports the staff team well to develop their professional skills. For example, staff have attended training to become more confident in supporting younger children, which they now demonstrate successfully. There is a strong focus on safeguarding children and all staff have received relevant training, and are aware of what to do if they are concerned about a child's welfare.

Setting details

Unique reference number	134443
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	836403
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	32
Name of provider	North Leigh Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	7 July 2011
Telephone number	01993 880092

North Leigh Pre-School has been operating for approximately 30 years and registered in 1992. It is located in a building within the grounds of North Leigh Primary School in the village of North Leigh, Oxfordshire. The pre-school is open each weekday, during school terms, from 7.45am to 3pm, including a breakfast club and lunch club. The on-site school provides after school care that pre-school children can attend. It cares for children learning English as an additional language. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. It employs four staff; three staff hold level 3 qualifications and the manager has attained Early Years Professional Status.

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