

Happy Hours Pre-School

Polehampton County Infant School,, Hermitage Drive,Twyford, Reading, RG10 9HS



Inspection date	23 March 2015
Previous inspection date	25 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

- The quality of teaching is good. Staff understand and plan for children based on accurate assessments of their development.
- Staff have strong links with parents and other professionals. Effective monitoring by the management team ensures that concerns about children's development are identified and support accessed. Therefore, gaps in development are minimised effectively.
- Staff form strong emotional bonds with children. As a result, children feel safe and secure, and enjoy attending the pre-school.
- All staff understand their child protection responsibilities and know what action to take should they be concerned about the welfare of any child.
- Staff seek children's views to find out what they enjoy doing at the pre-school. Children's interests are used effectively to plan interesting activities, further enhancing their learning and development.
- Staff support children's language development well. They role model effective communication through speech, sign language and pictures. Staff make sure that children can understand and be understood clearly.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make the best use of the environment to extend children's learning across all areas of development. The presentation of some resources requires attention to make them more appealing to children. Outside areas lack books and, therefore, do not fully encourage reading for those children who learn best outside.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the presentation of resources, inside and outside, to make them more appealing and to further enhance children's learning and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector toured areas of the premises used by children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager, and observed staff and children.
- The inspector spoke to the nominated person, the manager and staff during the inspection to gauge their knowledge.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their views.
- The inspector sampled policies and documents.

Inspector

Sara Hope

Inspection findings

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

Staff provide children with good educational programmes that support their development and, as a result, children progress well. They interact with staff and each other and receive good opportunities to develop their communication skills. Children develop physical skills through a range of activities. Indoors, they manipulate play dough, prepare snacks and toilet independently. Outside, children dig, steer bicycles and cars, and explore the field. Staff have high expectations of what children can achieve. They incorporate children's interests to motivate and engage them. Staff develop strong links with parents. Parents state that they receive good opportunities to contribute to their children's shared learning and are happy with the service they receive.

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

Staff encourage children to behave appropriately. They remind children of the rules and explain consequences. This also helps children to understand how to keep themselves safe. As a result, children's behaviour is generally good. Staff support children to develop high levels of independence. Children learn to use the toilet, wash their hands and prepare snacks with minimal staff involvement, depending on their ages, needs and abilities. Staff provide children with healthy snacks. Drinks are available throughout the session and children are reminded to access these. Children have good opportunities to use outdoor areas. Staff support children well to move on to school and other settings. They liaise with teachers who come in to visit children. Older children enjoy more structured adult-led activities. They follow instructions and gain confidence to speak in groups.

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

The manager understands her responsibilities with regards to meeting requirements. All children's progress is monitored effectively and activities are planned to build on their existing abilities. The environment is regularly checked for hazards. Fire drills ensure that children are familiar with routines that keep them safe. Appropriate checks are completed to make sure that those working with children remain suitable to do so. All staff have current first-aid training and have either completed, or are close to completing, relevant childcare qualifications. As a result, staff are knowledgeable about how to gain better outcomes for children. The manager invites feedback from others to identify areas for improvement in practices and the quality of service. For example, she has identified the need to extend evaluation processes and has researched ways to enhance parent involvement. The manager is passionate to drive changes that benefit children and staff. Staff have good opportunities to improve their professional development. During appraisals and meetings they discuss training to further enhance their skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	148659
Local authority	Wokingham
Inspection number	841836
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	43
Name of provider	Happy Hours Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	25 January 2011
Telephone number	01189349088

Happy Hours Pre-School registered in 1983. It is located in Twyford, Reading, and opens Monday to Friday between 8.45am and 3.15pm, term time only. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free education for children aged three and four. A total of 10 members of staff are employed to work with children. One staff member is an early years teacher and six staff hold relevant qualifications at level 3.

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