

Lawn Pre-School

Lawn Primary School, Brecon Close, Cleeve Lawn, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN3 1JT



Inspection date	25 March 2015
Previous inspection date	5 July 2012

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		Outstanding	1
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 very good and children are motivated and eager to learn as staff provide exciting learning opportunities.
- Staff understand children's needs as they assess learning progress accurately from their starting points on entry. Therefore, they make good progress in their learning across all areas.
- The children form close attachments with staff and they learn to manage their feelings, following the staff's good example, which prepares them well for school.
- The staff work closely together, communicating constantly, which means the pre-school is well organised. Children enjoy learning and are encouraged by staff who respect and value them.
- Children follow good hygiene routines and eat healthy food to promote their good health.
- Staff are well trained, especially in safeguarding, which promotes children's welfare.
- Partnership with parents is very strong; they feel involved and well informed about their children's progress and achievements, helping them feel involved in their children's learning.
- Staff, parents and children are involved in reviewing the provision and this drives improvement forward.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The outside area does not always challenge and extend learning, encouraging children's all-round development, particularly those children who prefer learning outdoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop a highly stimulating outside environment which extends learning and enhances children's development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times, and held meetings with the manager.
- The inspector observed children's activities and the quality of teaching inside and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took into account views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working with the children.

Inspector

Helen Millard

Inspection findings

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

Staff have a very good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The quality of teaching is high because staff use their thorough knowledge of children to plan an exciting range of learning experiences. Children initiate many activities themselves and staff play alongside children listening attentively to their opinions and responses. Staff then extend learning through expertly questioning thinking. Staff have high expectations and whole group activities develop high levels of communication and language skills. These extend children's listening ability, giving them skills for future learning. Children made and designed their own models, and staff encouraged them to test and improve the designs, which developed mathematical thinking and problem solving. Staff skilfully support all learners using visual aids and motivating every child to join in activities at their own level. Planning and assessment is precise and focused, and staff accurately identify children's next stages in learning.

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

Staff take time to get to know each child and their family well. Children form close bonds with staff, which supports their emotional well-being. Staff are encouraging and respectful to the children and they are good role models so children learn safe practices. Staff praise good behaviour and children's achievements are celebrated. Engaging routines develop independence and responsibility. For example, during meal times, children were encouraged to help prepare tables and clear them away; they served themselves and helped each other. Children play happily and cooperatively supported by staff. Staff enhance children's physical skills through regularly using the local school's hall, outside areas and by visiting local woods. This extends children's confidence and cooperation, enabling them to manage risks and understand the local environment.

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

The manager leads an enthusiastic staff team who are committed to promoting the best outcomes for children. The manager spends time working with staff monitoring provision and ensuring high standards are maintained. Staff meet together regularly to discuss and track children's progress. They discuss training, which has been undertaken, and share good ideas. This prompts further improvements in the provision, which have a positive impact on teaching and learning. However, management does not ensure staff make the best use of the outdoor area to maximise children's all-round development. The management committee maintain a range of policies and procedures, which guide staff practice. New staff are well supported and monitored by more experienced staff. Excellent partnerships with other providers and professionals encourage a regular review of practice and detailed self-evaluation ensures constant improvement in the already good standards of provision.

Setting details

Unique reference number	109046
Local authority	Swindon
Inspection number	839564
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	3 - 8
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	88
Name of provider	Lawn Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	5 July 2012
Telephone number	01793 613504

Lawn Pre-School was registered in 1976. A voluntary management committee manages it. It operates from two classrooms within the grounds of Lawn Primary School, Swindon. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for three and four-year-old children. It is open term time only from 8.50am to 2.50pm Monday to Wednesday and from 8.50-11.50 on Thursday and Friday. A lunch club runs from 11.50am to 12.50pm. There are 14 members of staff, of these eight hold qualifications at level 3, and three hold qualifications at level 2.

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