

Woodpecker Pre-School

Finstock C of E Primary School, 7 School Road, Finstock, Chipping Norton,
Oxfordshire, OX7 3BN



Inspection date

14 April 2015

Previous inspection date

24 February 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		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 across the pre-school is good. Staff provide a broad range of well-planned activities for children which support them to make good progress in their learning.
- Children are well protected because staff have a good understanding of their responsibility to keep children safe. Children are happy and feel secure because of the strong bonds they have formed with the adults.
- Staff implement effective safety procedures and help children understand how to keep themselves safe and healthy. There are effective risk assessments to minimise risks to children, while promoting their development.
- Children are developing the necessary skills and attitudes ready for school. Strong links with receiving schools ensure that the move to school is a pleasant experience for both children and parents.
- Staff are very reflective of their practice and eager to improve their skills in order to provide care and education of the highest quality.
- Strong partnership between parents and the pre-school staff ensures that parents are well informed about their child's development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The outdoor environment does not provide children with as many exciting experiences and activities as indoors, to extend and enhance their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the outdoor play space to provide a wide and exciting range of experiences across all areas of learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children indoors and in the outdoor area.
- The inspector took account of the views of the parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection, and held meetings with the leadership and management team.
- The inspector looked at children's records and planning documentation. She also checked evidence of the suitability of staff and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures to safeguard children's welfare.

Inspector

Amanda Perkin

Inspection findings

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

Children are happy, secure and make good progress in relation to their starting points. Staff use sign language and visual aids to help children in their language and communication skills. In addition, they teach older children new words to expand their vocabulary. Staff use effective teaching methods. They provide consistent narratives to children's actions, demonstrating how to use equipment and questioning children to increase their understanding. This ensures that children remain engaged and focused in their activities, which helps them develop skills for their future learning. Staff make regular observations of children's development, which enables them to plan effectively to challenge children and prepare them well for school. Staff provide parents with the opportunity to record their observations of their children's significant achievements from home and parents comment positively on the regular feedback from pre-school. Staff make good use of daily routines to broaden children's learning. At circle time children count how many people are present, and find the corresponding numeral.

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

Children feel secure with staff in this warm and nurturing pre-school. Staff listen to children and value their opinions, which promotes children's sense of worth and well-being. Children gain independence because staff encourage them to take responsibility and manage age-appropriate tasks, which prepares them well for school. Parents comment positively on how their children have improved their social skills and grown in confidence, on attending pre-school. Staff organise the indoor area effectively, using low-level containers, supported with photographs and print, which enables children to make independent choices. Children enjoy playing outside daily and this promotes their physical development. However, the resources available outside do not provide a wide range of activities to support all areas of children's development.

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

The manager has a good understanding of her responsibilities and meets all the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. All staff have attended safeguarding training so they are clear on their responsibilities to protect children. Staff attend training in first aid, to enable them to deal with accidents and other emergencies quickly and efficiently. Staff, parents and the committee review the policies on a regular basis. The pre-school's self-evaluation is effective. The manager provides a good role model and continues to drive professional development for herself and her team to further secure their knowledge of early years education. She carries out regular supervision of staff to monitor the quality of teaching and all staff attend weekly meetings.

Setting details

Unique reference number	133489
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	840982
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	Woodpecker Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	24 February 2012
Telephone number	01993 869 046

Woodpecker Pre-school registered in 1969. It is located in the rural village of Finstock, in Oxfordshire. The pre-school is open each weekday during term times from 8.45am to 12 noon. On Wednesdays, children may stay for the lunch club in preparation for their move into the main school. The pre-school employs two members of staff. Of these, one holds Early Years Professional status and the other has an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

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