

Sunflowers Pre-School

The Manor Primary School, Ruskin Avenue, MELKSHAM, Wiltshire, SN12 7NG



Inspection date

15 April 2015

Previous inspection date

5 December 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 children with a large variety of toys and resources, which are stored in low-level containers. This encourages children to make independent choices and take control of the direction of their play.
- The quality of teaching is good across all areas of the pre-school. Staff have a consistent approach and use good-quality teaching strategies to extend children's learning. As a result, children make good progress in their learning and development.
- Staff work well in partnership with parents to promote continuity between the nursery and home environments. They keep parents well informed about their children's progress. Staff provide ideas to help parents support their children's learning at home.
- Staff provide children with free access to the garden area. This helps to promote their physical development and their understanding of the importance of healthy lifestyles.
- Staff develop good relationships with children. As a result, children are happy and feel safe and secure.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager reviews her provision but has not fully developed opportunities to include parents' views in this process.
- Staff do not use all opportunities to extend children's understanding of written word in the outdoor environment, as part of their early understanding of literacy.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen systems of self-evaluation to include feedback from parents, in order to contribute to ongoing improvements
- increase opportunities for children to continue their understanding of the written word in the outdoor learning environment, such as through the use of signs and labels.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed interactions between staff and children during activities in the indoor and outdoor learning environments, and the toys and resources available.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at the children's assessment records and staff's planning documentation, and discussed these with the staff.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff suitability and qualifications.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Gina Chamberlain

Inspection findings

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

Staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They use observations and assessments to monitor children's progress carefully and plan effectively towards children's next steps in learning. This helps staff to identify and support any gaps in learning quickly. Staff extend children's communication skills well by promoting conversations during play. For example, staff talked with children about the caterpillars in the garden. They asked children questions about what caterpillars eat and what they will turn into. Children develop good social skills as they share, take turns and cooperate effectively to initiate and maintain harmonious play with their friends. As a result, children acquire valuable key skills for future learning. Children develop their enjoyment of music and movement, for example, as they dance around to their favourite music while twirling ribbons. Staff support children's developing self-esteem by clapping and praising their efforts.

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

Staff are kind, caring and considerate with children. They take the time to get to know each family and child well, which helps children to settle quickly and make secure bonds. Children develop increasing independence in self-care routines and have a good understanding about the importance of health and hygiene procedures, such as washing their hands before meals. The deployment of staff is effective in ensuring children make full use of all resources and are supported in their learning during play and activities. Children's behaviour is good, they follow instructions well and contribute in helping to tidy away between activities. Staff carefully plan to ease children's transitions to school. For example, staff invite local teachers into the preschool for a visit and plan activities around the preparation for the move.

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

The staff team is effective in promoting children's learning and well-being in all areas. Staff are dedicated to safeguarding the children in their care and are effective in implementing policies and procedures to help keep the children safe from harm. The manager and staff meet together regularly to discuss and track children's progress. They plan as a team for improvements to the setting, including future training. This helps to maintain good practice in the provision, which has a positive impact on teaching and learning. Staff have formed good relationships with other settings that children may attend, which helps to further support continuity of care and learning. Parents comment that the staff are very caring and supportive. Parents, including those whose children are learning to speak English as an additional language, report that their children are making good progress with their social skills, and language and communication.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY430899
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	823646
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	38
Number of children on roll	75
Name of provider	Broughton Road Pre School Committee
Date of previous inspection	5 December 2011
Telephone number	07761444743

Sunflowers Pre-School registered in 2011 and operates from a school site near the centre of Melksham, in Wiltshire. It was previously known as Broughton Road Pre-school, first registering in 1974. The pre-school is open five days a week, during term time only, from 8.45am to 3.30pm. The pre-school supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, and children learning English as an additional language. There are 12 members of staff working with the children. Of these, 10 have relevant childcare qualifications. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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