

Medstead Pre-school and Nursery

Roe Downs Road,, Medstead, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 5LG



Inspection date

23 April 2015

Previous inspection date

3 February 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	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		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The pre-school manager constantly uses her expertise to effectively influence staff practice and the outstanding quality of the provision.
- Children are extremely well prepared for their future and starting school. This is because staff successfully promote their reading and writing skills, and ability to focus their attention.
- Staff skilfully promote children's learning and development and provide them with challenge through their exceptionally positive involvement in children's play.
- Children are extremely happy and settled and show great enthusiasm as they get fully involved in everything on offer.
- Children's good health and physical well-being is extremely well promoted through regular swimming, music activities and outdoor play.
- Staff work successfully in partnership with parents and other agencies to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and help them reach expected levels of development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the range of books that reflect positive images of diversity to further promote children's understanding of differences in society.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor play areas.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager in the downstairs playroom.
- The inspector talked with staff, children and the manager at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation, the self-evaluation form and improvement plan, and checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of practitioners.
- The inspector took account of parents' views spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Catherine Greenwood

Inspection findings

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

Staff have an exceptional knowledge of how to help children to learn. They confidently teach children and provide them with excellent support and challenge during all activities. Staff carefully plan activities that successfully promote children's ability to focus, listen and follow instructions as a whole group. They teach all children to use sign language as they talk. They make sure that children who are hearing impaired sit at the front of group activities to promote their communication. Staff help children learn the sounds of letters of the alphabet and provide many opportunities for them to make marks and write. Children enthusiastically copy tongue twisters that promote their confidence and exceptional ability to read simple words. Consequently, they are extremely well prepared for starting school. Children develop an excellent understanding of the world, although there is scope to extend the range of books that feature diversity. They make bug hotels in the nature garden, watch tadpoles turn into frogs and grow plants from seeds.

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

Children's individual needs are exceptional well met. They show excellent independence as they choose activities and resources in the welcoming and well-resourced environment. Staff treat children with kindness and respect at all times and make sure they are fully included in activities. Children form close emotional bonds with staff and other children, and are exceptionally well behaved and cooperative. They smile and laugh with enjoyment as they dance confidently and energetically during music and movement activities. Children are motivated to try things for themselves and quickly learn to swim during weekly outings to the local pool.

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

Staff have an excellent knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures and the action to take to safeguard children's welfare. They receive regular supervision and work in an exceptionally positive and unified way to monitor and meet children's individual needs. Consequently, any gaps in children's learning are quickly reduced. The pre-school managers' commitment to improving staff professional development is exceptional. Since the last inspection, three staff have obtained a level 3 or level 4 childcare qualification. As a result, the whole staff team now hold appropriate childcare qualifications. They fully understand and implement the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Staff attend a wealth of additional training and use the knowledge they gain to improve outcomes for children. Self-evaluation and partnership with parents is excellent.

Setting details

Unique reference number	109996
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	839660
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	38
Number of children on roll	60
Name of provider	Medstead Pre-school and Nursery Committee
Date of previous inspection	3 February 2012
Telephone number	01420 561028

Medstead Pre-school and Nursery registered in 1992. It operates from a self-contained building in the grounds of Medstead Primary School, near Alton in Hampshire. The provision opens from Monday to Friday during school term times from 8.05am to 3.05pm. There are 11 staff employed, all of which hold relevant qualifications at level 3 and level 4. The setting is in receipt of funding for the provision free early education to children aged two, three and four.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

