

Central Pre-School

Central Community Centre, Emlyn Square, Railway Village, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN1 5BL



Inspection date

5 May 2015

Previous inspection date

19 October 2009

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

- Children are interested and keen to learn. This is because management and staff provide focused and challenging experiences. As a result, children make good progress from their individual starting points.
- Children behave well throughout the pre-school and have good awareness of rules and boundaries. This is because managers and staff make behavioural expectations clear, and provide gentle and effective reminders when required.
- Management and staff have a good partnership with parents. This means they work together effectively and parents are fully involved in their child's learning and development.
- The management team has a strong drive to improve the outcomes for all children. It undertakes a frequent and comprehensive self-evaluation, taking into account the views of parents, staff and children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not always have ready access to a rich range of creative materials, such as paper and pencils, which further enhances their early experiences of writing for a purpose.
- Managers and staff carry out small tasks for children that they could do for themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to independently write for different purposes, for example, by including more paper and writing materials in their play areas
- allow children to carry out small tasks for themselves to increase their independence.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in all areas of the pre-school.
- The inspector held discussions with members of the management team and spoke with the staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at the children's learning records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of staff working within the pre-school, a selection of policies and procedures, and a range of other documentation
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the pre-school manager
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection.

Inspector

Julie Swann

Inspection findings

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

Teaching is good. Management and staff regularly observe and assess children's development, track children's progress and plan activities precisely to their individual needs. This means all children make good progress and develop the skills needed as they move on to school. Management and staff successfully promote children's communication and language skills. For example, during the inspection, children showed great interest in building detailed wooden structures, and offered staff precise and detailed explanations while they questioned them. Children have many opportunities to enhance their already good mathematical skills. For example, children count numbers beyond 25 and use mathematical concepts, such as 'high' and 'low'. Children make good use of the selection of resources that support their early skills in making marks, such as chalks, dough and sand. However, children have limited opportunities to choose from a full range of creative materials, including paper and pencils, to enhance their early literacy skills.

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

Children are happy and settled. This is because they have developed secure attachments with their special person, which helps them to develop self-confidence, well-being and self-esteem. Children have daily opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. For example, children have regular opportunities to be physically active and exuberant in the outdoor play environments. Children have good opportunities to learn about safety. Staff remind children to take care not to stand on each other's fingers during circle time. This results in children developing a secure understanding of how to be safe. Children enjoy their meal times where they chat, make friendships and build relationships in a relaxed atmosphere. However, management and staff do not help children to be fully independent, such as allowing them to pour their own drinks.

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

Management and staff are secure in the procedure to follow should they have concerns about a child in their care as they have all attended safeguarding training. There are effective supervision and appraisal systems and the manager monitors children's learning and development. This helps identify any gaps in children's progress and improves outcomes for children. Management and staff have good opportunities for training. For example, they recently attended behaviour management and allergen training. This benefits children's care and well-being. The manager and staff team are committed to working in partnership with other professionals and have taken a lead role in establishing effective working relationships with a number of local schools. This helps to ensure there is an effective shared approach to continuity in children's achievements.

Setting details

Unique reference number	507997
Local authority	Swindon
Inspection number	836912
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	47
Name of provider	Central Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	19 October 2009
Telephone number	07563 726 781

Central Pre-school operates in Swindon, Wiltshire. The pre-school is open between 9am and 3pm, term time only. There are seven members of staff of whom five hold appropriate early years qualifications, including the manager who holds an early years degree. Two staff members are currently undertaking schemes to gain appropriate qualifications.

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