

Whitchurch on Thames Pre-School Group



Eastfield Lane, Whitchurch on Thames, Reading, Berkshire, RG8 7EJ

Inspection date

7 May 2015

Previous inspection date

5 June 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 is good. Staff plan activities that children enjoy, to further progress their development. They are consistent at extending children's language and thinking skills by asking questions such as 'what if?' and 'what do you think will happen?' Staff work effectively with parents to support children when they first attend. As a result, children settle quickly.
- Staff offer parents good opportunities to share children's progress verbally and through an online system. Parents state that they can contribute to children's shared learning, and that staff are dedicated and passionate. They are happy with the service they receive.
- Staff form strong bonds with children. Therefore, children feel safe and secure and confidently explore the environment and ask staff questions.
- Staff receive regular opportunities to have one-to-one meetings with management to discuss concerns and training. As a result, staff successfully identify and attend training to enhance their performance and support better outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not ensure that the labelling of all resources effectively supports opportunities for children to enhance their early reading skills.
- Staff provide information and communication technology resources for children. However, they do not consistently encourage children to learn through the use of technology.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the labelling of resources further to fully support children's early reading and literacy development
- enhance children's understanding of technology to challenge their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector toured the areas of the premises children use.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gather their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to the manager and staff during the inspection, to determine their knowledge.
- The inspector sampled policies and documents.

Inspector

Sara Hope

Inspection findings

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

Staff provide children with effective educational programmes across all areas of learning and development. Therefore, children make good progress. Staff complete development reports with parents to ensure that these give an accurate overview of what children have achieved. Children enjoy interacting with other children, staff and pupils from the school that they share grounds with. They have good opportunities to practise and develop their physical skills. Children enjoy steering bikes, climbing large apparatus, planting seeds and making mud pies in the garden. Indoors, they glue, cut and make marks to create cards to celebrate special events. Staff have high, yet realistic, expectations of what children can achieve. Children are encouraged, through small group activities, to speak with confidence and to listen to others and take turns.

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

Staff monitor and manage children's behaviour effectively. Therefore, children behave well and cooperate with each other to share equipment. Staff display 'wow' moments to recognise children's positive behaviour. This helps to reinforce behaviours such as tidying away toys and being kind to others. Children enjoy dressing up, completing puzzles and reading stories. Staff encourage children to become independent. Children learn to toilet, wash their hands and put on their coats with minimal adult intervention. Younger children receive more help if needed. Children are encouraged to eat healthy meals and to drink regularly. They discuss with staff how eating fruit and vegetables can help you to grow big and strong. Staff provide effective support for children's moves to school and have strong links with the school. Children have good opportunities to become familiar with the teacher and regularly go to the school for physical activities and stories.

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

The manager has a good understanding of her responsibilities with regards to the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Staff have a robust knowledge of child protection procedures and constantly monitor environments to ensure that children are safe. The manager involves staff, parents and children to evaluate the service. Parents complete annual surveys and share their suggestions with the pre-school to make improvements. Following feedback from a parent, staff have increased the range of music available during physical activities, to fully engage children. Staff work effectively with other professionals and understand how to gain advice and seek interventions for children to minimise gaps in progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	133701
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	825568
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	30
Name of provider	Whitchurch on Thames Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	5 June 2009
Telephone number	01189 844516

Whitchurch on Thames Pre-School Group registered in 1998. It is located in Whitchurch on Thames, Oxfordshire. It opens Monday to Thursday, between 8.45am and 3.15pm, and Fridays between 8.45am and 12.15pm, term time only. Lunch club is available each day. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four. A total of six members of staff are employed to work with children. All staff hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 3.

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