

Barkham Pre-School

Barkham Village Hall, Church Lane, Barkham, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG40 4PJ



Inspection date

19 May 2015

Previous inspection date

22 March 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

- The quality of teaching is strong. Staff use questions well to extend children's thinking and language. They assess children's learning effectively to plan for progress.
- Parents are happy with the service they receive. They state that their children settle quickly, and that they have flexible opportunities to learn about children's progress and to share information about their child.
- Staff prepare children well for their move to school. Older children change clothes for physical activities to build confidence and independence. Staff read children stories and talk to them about moving to school. They visit schools with children, as well as inviting teachers into the pre-school to meet them, to help prepare them for this next stage in their learning.
- Staff have good relationships with other professionals. For example, they work closely with staff from local schools and nurseries to share information about children, and they know how to gain support from early years teams, and from speech and language professionals. Therefore, gaps in children's development are identified and effectively minimised.
- Children are offered healthy snacks and packed lunches are encouraged to contain healthy foods, to develop their understanding of healthy lifestyles.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always fully consider how they layout some small group activities to ensure children remain engaged and are not distracted by other activities nearby.
- Although children have access to technology resources, staff do not consistently promote the use of these to further support and extend children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the layout of activities to ensure children involved in small group discussions are able to engage in these without being distracted by other groups nearby
- enhance opportunities for children to use technology resources to further extend 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 nominated person.
- The inspector spoke to the nominated person and staff during the inspection, to determine their knowledge.
- The inspector sampled policies and documentation.

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 a good range of stimulating activities to support children's progress across all areas of learning. Children practise their physical skills; for example, they make marks on paper, sort shapes and build towers. They develop their large muscles, indoors and outdoors, as they crawl through tunnels, paint with water and manoeuvre bicycles and scooters. Children also enjoy developing their muscles and coordination as they walk like penguins and move like an octopus, during a large group activity. They have good opportunities to interact with other children and adults. Staff are enthusiastic and follow children's interests. For example, currently children are learning about the lifecycle of the tadpole. They take joy and a keen interest in discovering how the tadpoles become frogs. This also develops their understanding of living things and the world around them.

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

Staff ensure that the environment is welcoming and stimulating. They form secure emotional bonds with children. Therefore, children feel safe and secure, which enables them to settle quickly when they start the pre-school and explore the environment with confidence. Behaviour is managed consistently by all staff. Therefore, children know what is expected from them. Staff make suggestions that help children develop how they negotiate, cooperate and share with each other. As a result, behaviour is generally good. Children enjoy exercising to be healthy. Staff constantly remind them to wash their hands and ask them if they need their nose cleaned, to develop their understanding of good hygiene routines. Younger children are offered more help with personal routines when needed. Children are encouraged to eat healthily and take regular drinks.

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

The nominated person, who is also the manager, has a good understanding of her responsibilities with regards to the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Staff have a strong knowledge of child protection procedures and can identify and refer concerns to ensure children remain safe. The environment and resources used by children are checked to make sure they remain suitable. Staff involve children in regular fire drills to ensure children are familiar with routines that protect them from harm. Activities that staff plan are generally well evaluated to make sure they meet children's needs. The manager invites feedback from staff, parents and children to identify areas of the service to further improve. For example, as a result of feedback, it has been identified how the outside area can be further developed. Staff have good opportunities to share training to improve all their practice, and discuss concerns during one-to-one meetings and annual appraisals. Therefore, they work together to improve outcomes for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	148639
Local authority	Wokingham
Inspection number	1008884
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	31
Name of provider	Barkham Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	22 March 2011
Telephone number	0118 9760750

Barkham Pre-School registered in 1971. It is located in Barkham, Berkshire. It opens Tuesday to Friday, between 9am and 12.45pm, term time only. Lunch club is available each day. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four. A total of seven members of staff are employed to work with children, of whom six hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 3.

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