

Shenley Church End Pre-School



Burchard Crescent, Shenley Church End, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK5 6HF

Inspection date 21 May 2015
Previous inspection date 12 September 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

- As keen and motivated learners, the children are highly involved in the stimulating activities both indoors and outdoors. Their passion for learning matches the staff's enthusiasm.
- All children, including those learning to speak English as an additional language and with special educational needs and/or disabilities, make good progress over time, given their starting points.
- The staff have a good knowledge and understanding of safeguarding. Staff know what action to take if they have concerns about a child or another member of staff.
- There are effective systems for self-evaluation which involve the views of staff, parents and children. Reflective practice results in the ongoing development of the service.
- The pre-school is well led and managed, and the committee is very supportive. For example, they organise outings and fundraising events.
- Staff establish strong partnerships with parents, childminder's, schools and other professionals involved in the children's lives. They nurture and support all children to make the best possible start through their pre-school experience.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always set up the book area in an attractive and inviting way to encourage children's further interest in books.
- Staff do not use a range of different types of music to further children's imaginations and understanding of the world.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- create a more inviting book corner to encourage children to look at books even more
- plan opportunities for children to listen to a wider range of music.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the play hall and garden.
- The inspector had discussions with children, parents and staff.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at observation files, tracking systems, the self-evaluation form, and a selection of policies and children's records.

Inspector

Kim Mundy

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is consistently good and there is a very good range of toys and resources to support planning for all areas of learning. Children have a strong sense of belonging as they find their name card and hang up their coat on their peg. They have many good opportunities to write and by the time they leave, several children can write their name. Children listen attentively at story time as staff use visual materials to capture their interest. They develop their creative skills and use their imaginations, for example, as they make models of animals and join in role play in the home corner. Staff use good-quality questioning skills to help children to express their thoughts and ideas. In addition, they use a wealth of mathematical language to enhance children's understanding of number, shape and measurement. Children enjoy singing and playing musical instruments. Staff introduce a wide range of words to extend children's vocabulary; they talk about blending the different colours of dough. Children develop positive attitudes to learning and staff help them to gain skills they need to be ready for school.

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

The key person system is very effective because staff get to know the children well and share plenty of information with parents about their child's care and learning. Parents compliment the consistent and constructive feedback they get about their children and state they find this very reassuring. Children are kind and considerate towards one another. They learn right from wrong because staff have high expectations and set clear boundaries, called 'golden rules'. These rules are also consistent with those set by the school the children move on to, so they are very familiar with them when they start. Children learn to keep safe, for example, as they use scissors and participate in the fire drill. They thoroughly enjoy being outdoors and develop good physical skills as they move streamers, kites and windmills in the wind.

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

The pre-school has robust recruitment procedures and, therefore, the manager leads a professional and established staff team. The manager monitors the ongoing performance and professional development of staff through staff appraisals and meetings. Staff attend various training courses and they share what they learn to further improve outcomes for children. The careful assessment and monitoring of children's good progress supports effective planning for their individual needs. Parents contribute to their child's initial assessments and are involved in their children's learning in the pre-school and at home. Staff carry out different types of observations and they track children's progress very closely to narrow any gaps in their learning. During the inspection, parents spoke highly of the staff and the progress they help their children make for the future.

Setting details

Unique reference number	141760
Local authority	Milton Keynes
Inspection number	841488
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	72
Name of provider	Shenley Church End Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	12 September 2011
Telephone number	01908 340850

Shenley Church End Pre-School registered in 1994. The pre-school is open Monday to Friday term-time only, from 9am to 11.30am and again from 11.45am to 2.45pm. It is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four. The pre-school currently supports children with English spoken as an additional language and children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Six of the seven staff working at the pre-school hold relevant qualifications to level 3.

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