

Marlborough Pre-School

Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens, Cranham, Essex, RM14 1SR



Inspection date

2 June 2015

Previous inspection date

16 February 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

- Staff establish good relationships with children to help them form secure attachments. Therefore, children are confident in exploring and trying out new experiences in the pre-school environment.
- Children make effective progress in their learning and development. This is because staff know how to engage children in learning by using effective communication, positive modelling of language and by offering constant praise and encouragement.
- Partnership with parents and other professionals is good. This is because staff successfully implement systems to engage them, including parents' meetings and making arrangements for transfer on to school.
- Staff promote children's physical health and well-being effectively. They provide good opportunities for children to take part in active play and encourage them to make healthy choices regarding snacks and drinks.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always extend children's mathematical experiences outdoors by providing a suitable range of resources to help strengthen their understanding of numbers, shapes and patterns.
- Staff miss opportunities at times to extend children's thinking skills during play through the use of effective questioning.

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 develop their mathematical understanding further outdoors, in particular their knowledge of numbers, shapes and patterns
- develop children's thinking skills by skilfully asking questions to challenge their learning further during play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises with the manager and observed activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with a manager.
- The inspector sampled children's records and other key documentation.
- The inspector held regular discussions with staff regarding children's safety and their learning and development.

Inspector

Lisa Paisley

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 a good range of activities that successfully capture their attention. Therefore, they know how to motivate and engage children well in their play and learning. Staff offer a good balance of activities. For example, children have opportunities to be physically active in play as well as concentrate on quieter tasks such as playing in small groups in the mud kitchen. Staff work together with parents to consistently support children's learning. Children learn to follow daily routines well and to attentively listen to and follow instructions. This helps them to develop the skills they need for the next stage of their learning and for school. Staff encourage children to reflect on their activities at the end of the session, which encourages children to celebrate their individual achievements. Staff offer children a wide range of writing tools and materials to support their skills for early writing. Therefore, children make good progress in their literacy development from their starting points on entry.

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

Staff help children to become aware of how to maintain a healthy body as they provide a good choice of healthy cereals, fruits and drinks. Additionally, they encourage children to be physically active and access daily fresh air. Children learn to become independent as staff give them small tasks to do, such as being the 'helper', which develops their self-esteem. Staff effectively assess any potential risks and hazards in the pre-school environment and maintain daily registers to keep children safe. Staff establish an effective key-person system to support children's emotional well-being and develop their sense of belonging. Furthermore, they help children to develop confidence in managing their personal care needs and implement good hygiene practices to promote children's physical health.

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

The provider and manager understand their responsibilities in meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Staff have a secure knowledge of the setting's policies and procedures, therefore promoting the welfare and safety of children at all times. The provider updates staff's knowledge of current practices through regular meetings and by ensuring that they benefit from access to further training, including on safeguarding. This helps to strengthen their knowledge and skills. The management implements good procedures for monitoring children's progress in order to close any gaps in learning. Additionally, they review and evaluate the provision well to identify any areas that require further development and involve parents, children and staff in this process. Therefore, they address any weaknesses to continually improve the outcomes for all children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY265517
Local authority	Havering
Inspection number	833260
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	35
Number of children on roll	63
Name of provider	Marlborough Pre-School
Date of previous inspection	16 February 2011
Telephone number	01708 220 941

Marlborough Pre-School registered in 2003. It is located in the London Borough of Havering. The pre-school employs 11 members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications, including one who has achieved Qualified Teacher Status. The pre-school opens on Monday to Friday from 9.10am to 12.10pm, and on Monday and Wednesday afternoon from 12.40pm to 3.40pm, during term time only. The provider is in receipt of funding for the provision of early education for two-, three-, and four-year-old children.

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