

# Paddocks Pre-School

Paddock Road, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 9LT



## Inspection date

26 June 2015

Previous inspection date

22 June 2011

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is outstanding

- The manager and staff provide highly stimulating experiences for children to explore all of their senses. They make superb use of the recently designed sensory garden, which offers an extremely calm and welcoming atmosphere that children are very keen to explore.
- Staff form excellent partnerships with parents. They use extensive ways to engage all parents in their child's learning.
- The manager and staff make outstanding links with other professionals, such as teachers in the local schools. This helps to prepare children for their move to schools or other provisions smoothly.
- Children are extremely motivated and highly independent. They constantly make choices in their play and routines, which helps them to become active learners. Children behave exceptionally well.
- The leadership and management team implements a highly professional training programme. Staff embrace all opportunities to enhance their knowledge and skills. This helps to improve outcomes for all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- The manager makes extensive use of self-evaluation to provide a clear drive for improvement that fully involves all staff and parents.
- Staff make highly effective use of activities to promote children's language and literacy before they move to school.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the use of mathematical language and activities with children to fully extend their developing understanding of weights and measurements.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector had discussions with the children, staff and the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection and through written feedback.
- The inspector looked at a range of relevant documentation relating to safeguarding, and staff suitability, as well as policies, procedures, and progress records.

### Inspector

Helen Harnew

## Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is outstanding. Staff have an excellent understanding of children's interests and next steps in learning. They use sharply focused and precise observation, assessment and planning to support every child's development. Staff successfully encourage parents to share information on children's achievements at home. This helps each child to make excellent progress given their starting points. Children develop excellent knowledge of numbers as they count in games and add and subtract numbers. There is less focus on weights and measures. Staff are extremely enthusiastic and constantly follow children's changing needs and interests as they play. Staff go with children on imaginary trips to the seaside. They use skilful questions to encourage children to share their ideas. Children find snails in the garden and staff help them to study their delicate shells as they learn about nature. Staff provide plenty of materials and paints for children to create their own snail pictures. Staff are highly effective in grouping children for activities based on their abilities, in order to make sure their individual learning progresses.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding**

Staff use excellent opportunities to teach children about safety. They involve children in the regular fire alarm checks and children explain the evacuation plan confidently. Staff use extensive opportunities to teach children about hygiene. For example, children explain how they care for the guinea pigs and always wash their hands after handling them. Staff provide regular access to the garden. Children benefit from frequently being in the fresh air where they have the opportunity to use a range of bicycles and large play equipment. This helps to promote their physical development and health extremely well.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding**

The leadership and management of the pre-school is inspirational. The manager has outstanding knowledge and understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She monitors the educational programme closely and evaluates groups of children's learning. This helps her to consistently plan ways to improve outcomes for all children. The manager accesses regular safeguarding training for staff who demonstrate a very secure understanding of their responsibility to protect children. She follows robust recruitment procedures and checks the ongoing suitability of staff to work with children. The manager and staff help to ensure that any hazards are minimised through daily safety checks. This all helps to keep children safe. The manager meets with other provisions regularly to continuously reflect and improve on their already first-rate practice.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	133711
<b>Local authority</b>	Oxfordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	825569
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	32
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	66
<b>Name of provider</b>	Paddocks Pre-School Playgroup Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	22 June 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	01491 825333

Paddocks Pre-school registered in 1965 and operates in Wallingford, Oxfordshire. It is open from Monday to Thursday between 8.45am to 4.45pm and on Fridays between 8.45am to 2.45pm, during term time only. The pre-school supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. It is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 10 members of staff who work directly with the children. Of these, one holds Qualified Teacher Status and a further seven hold relevant qualifications from level 3 to level 6.

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