

Cobham Community Pre-School



Meadow Rooms, The Street, Cobham, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 3BZ

Inspection date 22 June 2015
Previous inspection date 11 November 2010

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Outstanding | 1 |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| | Previous inspection: | Good | 2 |
| 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 meets legal requirements for early years settings | | | |

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff provide an excellent range of resources both inside and outdoors. As a result, children are actively engaged in their play, and are highly motivated to learn. However, using new initiatives for strengthening the outdoor play even further are currently slightly less evident.
- The quality of teaching is outstanding. The experienced and enthusiastic staff team use observations and assessments successfully to plan further activities to challenge children. Therefore nearly all children make exceptional progress in their learning.
- Staff work closely with parents and other professionals which ensures that the individual needs of children are extremely well met.
- Staff deployment is excellent and they use every opportunity to extend and promote children's learning.
- Children form very close relationships with staff and with each other. They are highly confident and extremely settled in the setting.
- Staff are highly positive role models for the children. As a result, children behave very well and have high levels of well-being.
- The manager and staff have an excellent understanding of safeguarding procedures. They ensure that children's safety is secure at all times and effectively teach children how to manage risks themselves.
- The staff team work exceptionally well together and demonstrate a strong commitment towards achieving and maintaining excellence in all areas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to strengthen the outdoor learning environment in order to provide ongoing and high-quality challenge for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff playing inside and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their feedback.
- The inspector looked at a sample of policies, procedures and children's progress folders.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and chairperson.

Inspector

Caroline Gibbons

Inspection findings

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

Staff demonstrate an excellent knowledge of how children learn and develop. They promote all areas of learning extremely effectively, and staff know when to play alongside children to extend their learning. For example, they sat in the role play caf and looked at the menu, as the children took their orders. Staff ask children skilful questions to challenge their thinking and problem solving. This helps to prepare them for their next stage in learning extremely well. Staff lead a short circle time to teach new skills to the children in an exciting and focussed way. For example, they made shapes and letters with wooden sticks, beat out rhythms and sung action rhymes. Children thoroughly enjoy the highly stimulating outdoor space where they hunt for mini-beasts and make pots of soup in the mud kitchen. Staff promote children's independence very well. For example, children change their shoes and boots capably for outdoor play and negotiate to share and take turns during play.

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

Staff support children extremely well to settle into the pre-school. Initial contact with the key person ensures that they meet children's individual interests. Children share pictures from home with the pre-school which supports their emotional development. Staff assess children's levels of well-being every term and hold regular meetings with their parents. This, and the creation of a focussed contact book, ensures that parents and staff work closely together. Staff are excellent role models. They are polite in their conversations with each other and the children. This ensures that children understand the golden rules of the setting and behave well. Staff offer constant praise to children using exciting vocabulary, promoting high levels of self-esteem. Staff teach children about healthy living by involving them in the selection of snacks and by regular outdoor activity. Staff have close links with local schools and provide a 'school box' for children to explore their journey and uniforms. This helps to prepare children effectively for their move to school.

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

The manager and staff consistently drive for improvement. Staff, parents and children contribute to the very successful evaluation of the pre-school, which results in high quality provision and good outcomes for children. Staff undertake specific training to strengthen their provision further. For example, they have recently made their book area more cosy and inviting to further encourage children's interest in books. The manager works closely with the committee to ensure the smooth running of the setting. There is a clear process for the recruitment of staff, and regular supervision and target setting ensures that staff remain highly trained and motivated.

Setting details

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|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Unique reference number | 127119 |
| Local authority | Kent |
| Inspection number | 840614 |
| Type of provision | Sessional provision |
| Registration category | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Age range of children | 2 - 5 |
| Total number of places | 24 |
| Number of children on roll | 35 |
| Name of provider | Cobham Community Pre School Committee |
| Date of previous inspection | 11 November 2010 |
| Telephone number | 07748 730245 |

Cobham Community Pre-School opened in 1986 and is in the village of Cobham, Kent. The pre-school is committee run and is open during term time only. The pre-school provides morning and afternoon sessions and a lunch club. The pre-school employs eight staff, six of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. The setting provides funded nursery education for three and four-year-olds.

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