

# Sherington Pre-school

Village Hall, Church Road, Sherington, Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire, MK16 9PB



## Inspection date

5 May 2015

Previous inspection date

15 July 2010

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- The quality of teaching is good and the educational programmes have depth and breadth across all areas. This ensures that children make good progress with their learning and development.
- Staff provide effective routines and child-accessible resources, which promotes children's self-care skills and independence well.
- Partnerships with parents and carers are strong. They are successfully involved in their children's learning at the provision and at home. Staff ensure they keep parents fully informed of their children's ongoing achievements.
- Staff have secure knowledge of safeguarding and child protection. The setting is secure and all visitors are recorded. Staff use effective risk assessments to minimise hazards, indoors and outdoors, to maintain a safe environment for children.
- The management team demonstrates a strong commitment to continuous improvement. They seek the views of parents and children in their self-evaluation and use this information to identify and make improvements.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Younger children do not always have daily access to resources that develop their understanding of mathematical concepts, such as light, heavy, full and empty.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further younger children's understanding of mathematical concepts, for example, by providing different sizes and shapes of containers in different play areas so that they can experiment with quantities and measures.

## Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children interacting during a range of activities.
- The inspector had discussions with staff and looked at a sample of children's development files.
- The inspector spoke to parents and looked at a range of documents, including evidence of staff's suitability to work with children and a sample of records.
- The inspector and the manager carried out a joint observation.

## Inspector

Maxine Coulson

## Inspection findings

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

Staff support children's communication and language development effectively. They engage children in purposeful conversations throughout the day during their activities. Staff provide younger children with a running commentary and introduce new words for them to copy and repeat back. They use effective strategies with older children, such as asking questions, to support their language and thinking skills. For example, as children play with paint, staff encourage them to explore what happens when colours are mixed. As a result, children gain confidence in language, communication and problem-solving skills. Overall, staff support all areas of learning well. Consequently, older children are keen learners and are self-motivated, developing the skills ready for their journey on to school. However, staff do not fully maximise younger children's mathematical development by providing daily resources to allow them to explore size and capacity. Staff use accurate assessments to highlight children's achievements and identify any gaps in their learning. As a result, all children make good progress from their starting points. Staff develop effective relationships with parents and share ideas for activities to support children's learning at home. This helps children make the best possible progress.

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

Staff form close, respectful relationships, promoting children's emotional and physical needs well. This fosters a sense of belonging. Children are confident, self-assured and settle easily. They are happy because they are supported well in their play in a safe and secure environment. Children have plenty of opportunities to exercise vigorously in large spaces, such as outdoors in the fresh air. There are visits to a local resident's garden where they plant, grow and pick fresh vegetables as they learn about healthy food. Children follow effective hygiene routines and show good levels of self-control as they serve themselves their snacks and drinks.

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

Recruitment and vetting of staff are robust. There are good systems to evaluate the setting and identify relevant strengths and weaknesses. The management team and committee set targets to drive improvement and effectively review staff performance. Staff have a strong knowledge of their roles and responsibilities to ensure that children are safeguarded. Five of the six staff hold a childcare or teaching qualification. This has a positive impact on children's learning. The management and staff understand how to manage risks to protect children's health and safety. Partnerships with parents, other settings and outside agencies are good and all their views are considered. This enables children to benefit from a coordinated approach to their care, learning and development.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	141871
<b>Local authority</b>	Milton Keynes
<b>Inspection number</b>	841502
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	41
<b>Name of provider</b>	Sherington Pre-School Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	15 July 2010
<b>Telephone number</b>	07532 695918 or 01908 611398

Sherington Pre-School registered in 1972. It operates from the village hall in Sherington, Newport Pagnall. It is open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9.15 am to 12.15pm, Tuesday from 9.15am to 1pm, and Friday from 9.15am to 3.30pm. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free education to children aged three and four years. There are six members of staff, of whom one holds Early Years Professional Status and four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3.

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