Wind in the Willows Pre-School



The Bowman Centre, Shears Drive, Amesbury, SALISBURY, SP4 7XT

Inspection date	29 June 2015
Previous inspection date	28 March 2011

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2
early years provision	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 provof children	vision to the well-being	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 support children's emotional well-being effectively. Staff are friendly and caring, and teach children to be kind and share their toys. Children respond happily to them and play cooperatively with their friends.
- Staff plan well-organised play areas that are attractive and inviting. Children happily explore a good range of toys and resources that support their ideas in play.
- Staff complete safeguarding training and demonstrate a clear understanding of child protection issues and procedures. This helps to promote children's welfare and keep them safe.
- Staff effectively support children's physical well-being. Children frequently play outdoors and have fun opportunities to exercise, and keep fit and healthy.
- Staff actively encourage children's independence as they start to take small responsibilities in helping staff within daily routines. Consequently, children's confidence develops and prepares them well as they move on to school.
- Children make good progress in their learning because teaching is successful.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff organise small group activities too close together and noise levels rise. This distracts some children and does not always support them to develop good concentration skills.
- Staff sometimes miss opportunities to fully support children in making connections between numbers, objects and counting, and solving simple practical problems.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the organisation of some group activities to minimise distractions for children and fully support their listening and attention skills
- provide more opportunities for children to use numbers for a purpose and develop their problem solving skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's interactions in play, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector sampled documentation, such as the operational policies and procedures, evidence of staff suitability and required records.
- The inspector had discussions with management, staff and children.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken with at the visit.

Inspector

Mary Daniel

Inspection findings

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

Staff make good use of their observations of children's play to plan interesting experiences that build on children's existing skills. Staff ask children questions about their play, which extends their thinking and provides appropriate challenges. This motivates children to learn and effectively supports their good progress. Children have fun exploring texture and colour as they investigate different materials with their hands. At the inspection, they often used pens and paper in their games, developing their early writing skills well. Staff promoted children's understanding of letters and sounds through a variety of purposeful activities. Consequently, children have good opportunities to develop their early literacy skills. Staff form positive partnerships with parents and other settings children attend. Parents said their children enjoy going to the pre-school and staff are very welcoming. Staff plan regular opportunities for parents to share information of their children's progress and be involved in their learning to promote consistency for children.

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

At the inspection, children were keen to help pick the strawberries they helped to grow. They said plants need sun and water to grow and helped staff wash the strawberries before eating them. Consequently, children learn about world around them and healthy practices through practical activities that they enjoy. Staff encourage children to play outside whenever they want and plan this area according to their needs and interests. At the inspection, children became absorbed in fitting large construction pieces together outside. They used their imaginations well and showed delight as they made a simple bicycle using the easy-to-hold pieces. Staff talked to children about keeping safe as they climbed and slid on the climbing frame. Children naturally went to find sun hats to wear before going outside, showing they recognised the importance of using sun protection.

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

Management and staff have a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Management has completed safer recruitment training, which has helped them implement clear employment procedures. They actively support staff development through ongoing training and supervision. Consequently, staff suitability is effectively assessed. Management and staff work well as a team and regularly evaluate their practice. They recognise areas to develop and share constructive suggestions to develop the pre-school. This has helped staff make positive improvements since the last inspection. They have developed the assessment systems so they monitor children's achievements more effectively. This helps staff promptly identify gaps in children's learning and provide any necessary support. Consequently, promoting good outcomes for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY419010
Local authority Wiltshire

Inspection number 832545

Type of provision Full-time provision

Registration category Childcare - Non-Domestic

Age range of children 1 - 8

Total number of places 30

Number of children on roll 71

Name of provider

Wind in the Willows Pre-School Limited

Date of previous inspection28 March 2011 **Telephone number**07895652936

Wind in the Willows Pre-School registered in 2010. It is situated in the Boscombe Down area of Amesbury, Wiltshire. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday during term time, from 8.45am to 3pm, with an after-school facility for older children from 3pm to 6pm. During the school holidays it opens from 8.15am to 6pm. The pre-school is in receipt of funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years old. The owner/manager holds a degree in childcare and early years education and employs 10 staff. Of these, five hold qualifications at level 3, one holds a qualification at level 2 and four are currently working towards a childcare qualification.

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