

Metherringham Pre-School

The Village Hall, Fen Road, Metherringham, Lincoln, Lincolnshire, LN4 3AA



Inspection date

3 July 2015

Previous inspection date

13 November 2009

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

- The manager inspires the well-qualified and experienced staff team who are highly motivated and enthusiastic. They are all dedicated to providing a stimulating and happy environment for children.
- All children make rapid progress given their starting points and capabilities. This is because staff complete regular and precise assessments of children's learning. Staff use their secure observations of children to plan sharply focused activities, which build on each child's next steps in learning.
- Teaching is excellent. Staff encourage children to develop critical thinking skills and become active learners. This means that children are also inquisitive, confident and well prepared for the next stage in their learning, such as school.
- Staff are kind and very attentive to each child's every need. Children are very happy, settled and emotionally secure.
- All children benefit extremely well from a coordinated approach to their learning and meeting their individual needs. This is because of the excellent and well-established partnerships with parents and other professionals involved with the child.
- Detailed and comprehensive safeguarding policies and procedures are given very high priority, so that children are well protected.
- Excellent self-evaluation and reflective practice including targeted training, continually raises the quality of teaching and development in pursuit of excellence.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to offer even more ways to help children have more uninterrupted time to play and explore, or to become deeply involved in activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning, both inside and outdoors.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the pre-school's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Judith Rayner

Inspection findings

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

Children are busy and engaged in their play in the extremely well-planned and resourced pre-school. Staff skilfully adapt their approach and questioning according to the age, ability and interest of the child. For example, staff ask older children how to work out problems, while younger children are given more time to explore and investigate. Children are immersed in their self-chosen play. They work out how to move water from one area to another using funnels, tubes, containers and plastic guttering. They are extremely focused and concentrate well while working cooperatively with their friends to achieve the end result. Staff promote a very happy and fun-filled learning environment. They use every opportunity to maximise children's mathematical skills. Children learn to count, name colours and compare sizes of containers and the time it takes when filling larger containers with water. Children lead their play while staff interact with them and guide their learning very skilfully. For example, children make magic wands out of sticks and glitter. They extend their own learning as they pretend to sell the wands with the staff, who support their lead extremely well. Staff recognise the importance of sharing information with parents, which children benefit exceptionally well from.

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

Children's well-being is given very high priority. Children are well behaved because staff are very skilled in behaviour management and work exceptionally well with parents to ensure consistency of care. All children gain confidence and have very good self-esteem because staff praise children on their achievements. Furthermore, the well-established key-person system means staff support the individual needs of each child extremely well. Staff expertly help children to be emotionally and socially ready for the next stage in their learning. They also offer a very good range of resources and experiences to assist children in the smooth move on to school. Children have a deep understanding of how to keep themselves and others safe and healthy. For example, children know how to carry scissors safely from inside to outside.

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

Parents are extremely well informed about the pre-school. Their ideas are welcomed by staff and are included in the pre-school's ongoing improvement plan. All staff skilfully drive improvements by rigorously checking children's progress and enhancing the range and quality of activities and resources. The manager is highly proficient in regularly checking staff's written assessments to ensure they are a true reflection of children's abilities. Furthermore, the manager observes staff teaching and gives feedback about how they can improve. For example, the manager is currently reviewing how snack time is organised when children are outside, to ensure children have more uninterrupted time to play and explore, and to become deeply involved in activities. All staff have a very secure understanding of their responsibilities in meeting the legal requirements.

Setting details

Unique reference number	253567
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	866760
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	45
Name of provider	Metheringham Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	13 November 2009
Telephone number	07974870822

Metheringham Pre-School was registered in 1967. The pre-school employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one is unqualified. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are between the hours of 9am until 3pm on a Monday. Sessions from Tuesday to Friday are between 9am until 12 noon. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

