

Holmer Green Methodist Pre-School



Earl Howe Road, Holmer Green, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP15 6PX

Inspection date	14 July 2015
Previous inspection date	11 July 2011

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff plan activities and resources that follow children's interests and next steps in learning well. This helps children to make good progress in all areas of development.
- Staff help children to build a good understanding of nature as they provide plenty of opportunities for them to explore the environment outside. Children hunt for bugs and taste the fruits they grow in their planting area.
- Children learn to behave well. Staff act as good role models as they help children learn to share and take turns with each other.
- Staff make good use of everyday routines to help children to develop their independence and self-help skills. For example, children serve their own snacks and pour their own drinks.
- The manager uses supervisions effectively to monitor staff performance and the impact that this has on improving children's progress. She encourages staff to attend regular training and share new learning with other staff. This helps to update staff knowledge and skills to improve outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always challenge and extend children's mathematical skills further during their play, with particular regards to shape, adding and subtraction.
- Staff do not consistently provide a range of resources or activities that help to fully promote children's understanding of diversity, with particular regards to age and disabled people.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the opportunities to extend children's mathematical skills further
- enhance the resources and activities that help to develop children's understanding of diversity.

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 through written feedback.
- The inspector looked at a range of relevant documentation relating to safeguarding, staff suitability, 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 good

The quality of teaching is good. Staff offer plenty of opportunities for children to write with a purpose to build their literacy skills. For example, children choose resources and tools to draw their own treasure maps. They share lots of stories and make good use of toys, such as puppets. Children use resources, such as metal detectors, to explore the outdoor environment. They investigate a wide range of materials to discover which are made of metal. Staff extend their learning by teaching them new vocabulary, such as, 'detect' and 'shiny'. Staff ask plenty of questions which encourage children to share their own ideas and thoughts. This helps to extend children's good language skills. Staff provide a wide range of materials and media. This helps children to make choices and freely express themselves through art and design. Staff share plenty of information with parents on children's progress and next steps. They encourage parents to write about children's achievements at home and they offer ideas for parents to continue children's learning at home. This helps to provide good continuity in their learning.

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

Staff have a strong knowledge of children's needs and interests. They encourage parents to share this information when they join, which helps them to form starting points for children. As a result, children settle into activities promptly. Staff help children to begin to develop an understanding of keeping themselves safe. They invite other professionals, such as police officers, to the setting to talk to children about safety. They encourage children to practise using tools, such as scissors, to begin to learn how to use them with care. The manager and staff have a strong understanding of the possible symptoms of abuse and know who to contact if they have a concern about a child's welfare. Staff promote children's healthy lifestyles well. They offer healthy food and drinks for children's snacks and lots of access to outdoor play.

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

The manager has a strong understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She follows robust recruitment and vetting procedures to check the suitability of staff. The manager works closely with other professionals, such as early years improvement service consultants, to audit the provision. She seeks the views of children, staff and parents to evaluate the pre-school. This all helps her to make strong action plans to improve staff practice and improve the outcomes for children. Staff form strong links with the schools children move on to. They invite teachers to the setting to share lots of information on children's progress. This also helps to emotionally prepare the children for the move as they meet their new teachers.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY262620
Local authority	Buckinghamshire
Inspection number	847112
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	27
Name of provider	Holmer Green Methodist Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	11 July 2011
Telephone number	01494 711341

Holmer Green Methodist Pre-School registered in 1968 and operates in Holmer Green, Buckinghamshire. The pre-school is open between 9.15am and 12 noon, five days a week during school term times. There are nine members of staff who work with children, all of whom have childcare qualifications at level 2 or 3.

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