

Milford Pre-School

Milford Primary School, Chevin Road, Milford, Derbyshire, DE56 0QH



Inspection date

9 July 2015

Previous inspection date

5 April 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 are deployed well. They use every opportunity to enrich the curriculum and promote children's learning.
- Staff have a very good understanding of their roles and responsibilities to safeguard and protect children from harm. They demonstrate a secure knowledge of what to do if they have concerns about a child.
- Children are developing independent skills. They manage their own personal care needs, pour their own drinks and tidy up after themselves.
- The quality of teaching is good. As a result, children are motivated to explore ideas and extend their learning.
- There are well-established partnerships with parents and excellent links with local schools. This helps children to be prepared emotionally for moving on to the next stage in their learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- For a minority of children, occasionally activities do not hold their interest and they disengage for a short time.
- Children have few opportunities to take risks and face challenges in the outdoor environment

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of group activities so that all children are encouraged to have fun and learn while taking part
- make better use of the space outdoors in order to maximise opportunities for children to take safe risks and face challenges.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing both indoors and outside.
- The inspector checked evidence of the qualifications and the suitability of all staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation, including relevant policies and procedures, the self-evaluation form and improvement plan, accident and medication records and a sample of children's learning files and assessments.
- The inspector took account of parents' views given on the day.

Inspector

Teresa Lester

Inspection findings

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

The pre-school provides a good range of activities to promote children's learning and development across the seven areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. Staff effectively support children in their early language skills. They also use signs to support the language development of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff show children that what they say matters by listening to them carefully. They ask appropriate questions to support children's thinking and encourage them to solve their own problems. As a result, children are making good progress in their learning from their starting points, including children who are in receipt of early education funding. Staff link assessments and children's individual next steps into planning, to provide a good range of challenging activities. However, during story time, the grouping of children results in some losing interest in the activity. Reports on children's learning and development are sent home each term, and information about what children have been learning is shared verbally at collection times.

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

Staff are kind and caring, and children's feelings of security and safety are fostered well, helping them establish close relationships. The key-person system is effective. This means that staff promote positive relationships with children, which ensures their individual needs are all well met. Staff are good role models, which encourages children to respect and behave well towards one another. Staff use praise to build up children's confidence and self-esteem, and staff help children to develop skills they need for school. For example, they encourage children's mathematical skills during daily routines and activities. Children explore their early writing skills and enjoy using a variety of materials to write their own names. Staff communicate freely and easily with children as they introduce new words during daily conversations. The pre-school is well resourced. However, the way the resources are organised outside slightly restricts movement and children's ability to use large play equipment.

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

The management team and staff understand the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements and work within them to keep children stimulated, challenged and safe. The staff develop strong relationships with parents, who comment on how well information is shared with them, and the good progress their children make. Staff understand the importance of supporting children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. The management team work with parents and other professionals to provide consistency in children's care and development. The management team are committed to evaluating strengths and areas for improvement in the pre-school. The well-qualified staff team have good opportunities to increase their knowledge and skills by attending relevant training. This contributes towards the high quality of care and learning that children receive.

Setting details

Unique reference number	206820
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	865438
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	37
Number of children on roll	38
Name of provider	Milford Pre-School
Date of previous inspection	5 April 2011
Telephone number	01332 842913

Milford Pre-School was registered again in 1992 and operates from rooms at Milford Primary School. The pre-school employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualifications at level 4 and five hold a qualification at level 3. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children and support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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