

North Drive Pre-School

North Drive, Grove, Wantage, Oxfordshire, OX12 7PW



Inspection date

18 September 2015

Previous inspection date

18 March 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Teaching has improved since the last inspection but still does not consistently motivate and challenge children to achieve well in their learning. Staff do not always recognise when to give children time to think and complete tasks for themselves. They tend to step in too quickly to provide answers or practical help rather than letting children work things out.
- There has been some improvement in the management of children's behaviour but, overall, staff lack skills in supporting children's personal and social development. They do not always encourage children to treat resources with respect and do not offer enough support for children to learn to share and take turns
- Some effective self-evaluation has supported the staff to meet the actions set at the last inspection. However, action plans do not sharply focus on new priorities to continue to improve outcomes for children.

It has the following strengths

- The key-person system is effective in developing close and respectful relationships with children. Staff show kindness and value children's views and opinions. They are sensitive to children's needs and this effectively supports children's emotional well-being.
- Children are well safeguarded. Staff have a good understanding of their responsibilities. They access ongoing training and all staff are confident in their role. Children play in a safe environment, where staff help them to manage risks during their play.
- Children enjoy exploring a good range of toys, resources and materials.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

	Due Date
■ improve the quality of teaching to ensure children have enough time to absorb information, consider their own ideas and work things out for themselves	16/10/2015
■ give support for staff to develop their understanding of how to better promote children's personal and social development.	16/10/2015

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

- review and extend the self-evaluation processes to focus more precisely on identifying action to take to continue to improve outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children during activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector looked at a sample of children's assessment folders, records and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with the staff, children and parents at appropriate times throughout the inspection.

Inspector
Melissa Cox

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Teaching is improving as arrangements for monitoring the quality of staff interactions and their performance become further embedded. Training and local authority support has had a positive effect, in particular, on how the learning environment is used and resourced. Self-evaluation has adequately identified areas for development but managers are not fully effective in prioritising actions to drive improvements forward. Staff seek appropriate interventions from other professionals, when needed, and working partnerships with the host school are improving. Safeguarding is effective.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Children receive a broad range of learning experiences. Staff know each child well. They complete regular observations and suitably track and plan for their progress. Staff adequately model language and introduce new vocabulary to support children's communication. They sing rhymes, read stories and engage children in friendly conversations. They adequately promote counting and mathematical skills through play. However, staff are less effective in promoting children's reasoning and problem solving skills. They do not always encourage children to consider, predict and express their ideas. Staff work closely with parents and involve them in their child's learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Staff are starting to give clear and consistent messages about expected behaviours and, as a result, behaviour is slowly improving. However, overall, the staff team do not have a strong understanding of how to support children to develop good personal and social skills. They teach children to understand simple rules, such as being kind, but are inconsistent in supporting them to share and take turns. Children enjoy playing outdoors and participate in a variety of physical activities. Staff generally support children to develop in their personal-care and independence. However they have a tendency to complete tasks, such as wiping noses for children rather than encouraging them to gain these skills. Staff adequately promote healthy eating. There is a suitable regard to developing children's awareness of people's differences and the wider world outside their community.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Outcomes for children are improving but managers are more successful in driving change in some areas than in others. Children make progress in their learning and development, but do not consistently receive enough challenge to reach their full potential. This means that they do not receive the best possible support to prepare them for their future learning, including their move on to school. However, children enjoy the time they spend at the pre-school and form warm, trusting relationships with staff.

Setting details

Unique reference number	133727
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	1010422
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	22
Name of provider	North Drive Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	18 March 2015
Telephone number	07980 335415

North Drive Pre-school registered in 1998. It is situated in the village of Grove, Wantage, Oxfordshire, within the grounds of Grove Primary School. The pre-school is open during term-time only, Monday to Friday 8.30am to 11.30am, and Monday to Thursday, 12.30pm to 3.00pm. Children are also able to stay for lunch club. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four. The pre-school employs five members of staff. One member of staff holds a relevant qualification at level 5 and two hold qualifications at level 3.

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