

Swindon Village Early Years



Church Road, Swindon Village, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL51 9RE

Inspection date	28 September 2015
Previous inspection date	6 November 2014

	This inspection:	Good	2
The quality and standards of the early years provision			
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The managers maintain robust safeguarding procedures to ensure all children are safe from harm. Staff receive relevant safeguarding training and complete regular risk assessments.
- Children are motivated and have a positive attitude to learning. This helps to prepare them well for school.
- Staff have developed very good relationships with children; consequently, children are happy and settled. This promotes their social skills and emotional well-being.
- Children are progressing well and steps are in place to ensure that this continues for those children working above typical levels of development.
- Staff establish good working relationships with parents. They share news on children's progress and invite parents to be part of their children's learning.
- There is a good system of self-evaluation that all staff, parents and children are involved with. Staff are extremely reflective of their practice. They have made significant improvements since the last inspection and support each other well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not make the best use of all opportunities to extend children's learning through skilful questioning.
- Staff do not make use of all opportunities to extend children's understanding and learning about modern technology.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on questioning techniques used by staff, to enhance children's learning experiences
- make more use of the activities and experiences on offer to children to extend their understanding and use of technology.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and play indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to parents and considered their views.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including staff suitability records, children's records, policies and procedures.

Inspector

Jean Essom

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The managers have developed practice effectively, meeting all previous actions and recommendations to improve outcomes for children. They have taken advice and used training to develop staff knowledge and have reviewed security procedures. The managers ensure that staff understand how to identify any concerns about a child's welfare and how to report these to the relevant external agencies. They ensure that all staff hold Disclosure Barring Service checks before working with children. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are deployed well to supervise children and meet their individual needs, so that children are able to play and learn safely. Regular staff meetings and supervisions ensure the staff feel supported and fully understand their roles and responsibilities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a wide range of challenging activities based on the interests of the children. They provide explanations of processes and children enjoy exploring the interesting environment. Managers are good role models to staff, sharing their good knowledge of how children learn and develop. Staff complete detailed observations and assessments of children's development, which they use to support children's progress. Managers maintain an overview of all children's progress and use this to check for gaps in learning. Parents become involved with their children's learning by discussing their needs with staff and sharing home-learning packs with their children to complement the learning activities in the pre-school. As a result, all adults are working towards the same goals with the children. Partnerships with the local school are very good and staff use advice from teachers to support children in preparation for the move to school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff teach children about good behaviour and children understand the consequences of their actions. They learn to share, take turns and respect each other. Younger children quickly become secure, building close attachments with staff. Older children learn to manage their personal needs independently, to support their future learning. The outdoor environment provides good opportunities for those children who prefer to learn outdoors in the fresh air. Staff ensure children benefit from regular exercise by using the surrounding fields and parks with them. Children learn about healthy eating during snack time when staff discuss the fruit and drinks with them, and through the games they play.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are making good progress from their starting points. Their early literacy skills are developing well, with most children successfully identifying their own name. They learn mathematical skills through daily routines.

Setting details

Unique reference number	101691
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	998280
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	33
Number of children on roll	62
Name of provider	Debra Styman & Sally Stennett Partnership
Date of previous inspection	6 November 2014
Telephone number	01242 690479

Swindon Village Early Years registered in 2001. The pre-school is situated in the village hall in Swindon Village, which is on the outskirts of Cheltenham. It receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school is open every weekday morning, with extended sessions on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, during school terms. There are 10 staff members, four of whom have relevant qualifications. The managers are both qualified at level 3.

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