

Rainbow Pre-School (Thrapston)

Sports & Social Club, Chancery Lane, Thrapston, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN14 4JL



Inspection date

7 October 2015

Previous inspection date

30 June 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 manager and staff team have made significant and rapid changes to their practice in order to address the issues raised at the last inspection. These changes have a clear and positive impact on children's learning and development.
- Teaching is good; staff use information from assessments and daily observations to plan activities that children are interested in and which provide suitable challenge to help them continue to make progress.
- Children benefit from the good partnership working between their parents and the pre-school. Children's needs are met in relation to their care and learning because staff value information from home.
- Children's safety is given high priority. Staff carry out risk assessments and are vigilant in their supervision of children during activities.
- Children are prepared for the next stage in their learning. They are independent and make choices about what they want to do. Children are learning to respect and value each other. Staff talk to them about being friends and being kind to one another.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff supervision is not yet sharply focused enough on raising the quality of practice more swiftly to enhance the quality of teaching further.
- Occasionally, staff do not make the most of opportunities that arise during group activities to provide rich and imaginative experiences for all children involved.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the already successful performance management procedures to further promote staff's performance and teaching
- identify and use a range of teaching strategies to re-focus children's attention, particularly during large group activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the pre-school deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager and with two members of staff. She 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

Melanie Eastwell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Staff are well-qualified and demonstrate a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They implement this successfully for individual children. Staff are supported to continue to develop their knowledge as they attend training courses and receive in-house training from the manager. This increase in knowledge is demonstrated in the staff's effective teaching strategies. However, the procedures for supervision and performance management are not sufficiently refined to ensure their ongoing professional development is incisive and focused on staff's individual needs. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a good understanding of how to keep children safe and to ensure their welfare. Secure recruitment procedures ensure that staff are suitable to work with children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff demonstrate effective teaching during their positive involvement in children's play and activities. They sit with children, encouraging them to lead the play. They show a genuine interest and ask well-placed questions to help children extend their own learning. Staff rapidly respond to children's interest and suggestions, planning around these to help children continue to make progress. Children generally enjoy large group activities. However, staff are not always alert to children whose attention begins to wander and they do not always consider ways to re-engage children's attention. Staff put a positive emphasis on promoting children's communication and language. They talk to them, giving children time to consider their responses and they introduce new descriptive words during play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children show that they feel confident and a sense of belonging. They arrive happily and eagerly settle to their chosen activities. They clearly demonstrate their growing attachment to the staff as they run up to greet them and crowd around the activities that staff are involved with. There is a well-established key-person system which ensures that children's needs are discussed with their parents and any changes are decided upon together. Staff are good role models. They provide clear explanations about the expectations for behaviour and children respond to the gentle reminders provided during the session. Children are learning about healthy lifestyles. They become excited about outside activities and walks in the fresh air and they enjoy a variety of snacks and regular drinks.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making progress in their learning and staff are alert to those who require additional support or adaptations to the activities. Staff build on what children already know and children are keen to take part in the activities that are planned for them.

Setting details

Unique reference number	219996
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1022016
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	28
Name of provider	Rainbow Pre-School (Thrapston) Committee
Date of previous inspection	30 June 2015
Telephone number	01832 732470

Rainbow Pre-school (Thrapston) was registered in 2000. The pre-school employs four members of childcare staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications between level 3 and 6, including one with Early Years Professional status. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are on Monday from 9.15am until 3.30pm, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9am until 3.30pm, and Thursday and Friday from 9am until 12.15pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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