

Woodlands under 5s Pre-School



Vinters Park Community Centre, Aldon Close, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 5QF

Inspection date	8 October 2015
Previous inspection date	2 December 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- Parents are well informed of their children's learning and development. The staff actively share information with them. This helps to ensure consistency of care and learning for each child.
- Managers maintain good links with schools and other agencies to fully support children's progress. They work well together to share ideas and strategies and meet children's individual needs.
- The children have good opportunities to explore, investigate and celebrate the local environment and surrounding community. They show a good understanding of others and respect differences within society.
- Staff use a varied range of resources and activities to provide good learning opportunities for children. The well-organised space provides an inviting environment in which children can make good progress.
- The children develop good physical skills as they negotiate space, balance and participate in various energetic activities. As a result, they develop a good understanding of the effect of exercise on their bodies.
- The manager is dedicated to making positive changes to keep children motivated to learn through new ideas. She uses a range of effective ways to review and evaluate practice to make continuous improvements.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Monitoring is not yet fully embedded to sharply focus on identifying and tackling gaps in the learning of groups of children.
- Staff do not always provide children with explanations of the consequences of their actions to help their understanding of keeping themselves safe.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the tracking of groups of children to sharpen the focus on identifying and tackling gaps in their learning
- extend children's understanding of how to keep themselves safe through consistent explanations of the consequences of their actions.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the indoor and outdoor environments.
- The inspector observed the staff's interaction with children.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including a sample of the policies and procedures, staff suitability records and children's records.
- The inspector spoke to children, parents and staff, and took their views into consideration.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager is determined to make changes that have a positive impact on children's learning. For example, she reviews the environment regularly and, as a result, partitions are now used to reduce noise levels. This helps children to concentrate on activities where they can fully develop their communication skills. The well-qualified staff team are knowledgeable with regards to children's learning and development. They accurately track each child's progress and make plans to meet their individual learning needs. The staff have regular supervision meetings which the manager uses to monitor the consistency of staff practice and identify training needs. This helps to maintain a good quality of teaching that benefits children. Safeguarding is effective. Staff know the signs and symptoms to be aware of and are confident with how to deal with any concerns appropriately. They implement robust safeguarding policies.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children well and take good account of their individual personalities, interests and needs. This helps to extend children's learning. Staff are able to promptly identify any gaps in children's individual learning. They support all children, including those with additional needs, to make good progress. Children develop good speaking and listening skills as they interact with staff. They take part in group 'wise owl' time, focusing on topics such as 'kind hands'. This helps children grow in confidence and develop good social skills. Children develop good physical skills and learn to meet their own needs as they independently use the bathroom and water station. They follow well-embedded health and hygiene routines which help them learn how to keep themselves healthy.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

There is a well-established key-person system which helps children to feel safe and secure. Children have a good sense of belonging and feel valued. This helps them to be confident to explore and investigate the learning opportunities available. Children are settled and enjoy their time at the pre-school. The staff are good role models for both manners and behaviour and this helps children behave well and be polite. Staff encourage them to follow rules and boundaries, and children do this well and know what is expected of them. This helps them to negotiate with one another and play happily together.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. They learn to be independent in preparation for the move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127783
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	825444
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	33
Name of provider	Woodlands Under Fives Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	2 December 2009
Telephone number	01622 671131

Woodlands under 5s Pre-School operates in Vinters Park Community Centre in Maidstone, Kent. It was registered in 1982. The pre-school is open Monday to Thursday from 9.30am to 2.30pm. It is in receipt of funding for nursery education sessions for children aged three and four years. The pre-school employs 11 staff, eight of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

