

Sparrows Pre-School

Sparrow Farm Road, Epsom, Surrey, KT17 2LW



Inspection date	16 October 2015
Previous inspection date	26 January 2012

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

- Staff provide a friendly and welcoming atmosphere for children. They develop good relationships with children and this helps support their emotional well-being.
- Staff provide a variety of outdoor experiences for children that help them learn about nature, develop their understanding of the world and extend their social and physical skills. These also effectively help to promote their physical well-being.
- Children have a wide variety of imaginative and challenging resources to choose. Children engage with both planned and self-chosen activities, which help them to make good progress.
- The manager regularly reviews and updates her risk assessment. Staff check for and remove risks twice daily to help to keep children safe. Staff talk to children about how they can manage risks during outings.
- The manager supervises staff well. She regularly observes their practice to identify opportunities for professional development. Staff work as a close team. They reflect on the provision, make decisions together and work towards a shared vision to drive improvements.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff promote cultural diversity when talking to children and celebrating cultural festivities. However, they do not always make the most of reflecting children's culture and language in the environment or during their play.
- Staff, on occasion, do not extend children's awareness that print carries meaning and how letters link to their sounds, to develop further their early literacy skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to share and use their cultural and home backgrounds during their play and learning, to build on their sense of belonging
- strengthen children's understanding of print carrying meaning and how letters link to their sounds, to develop further their early literacy skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children both indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector and manager participated in a joint observation.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and reviewed a sample of documentation.
- The inspector spoke to staff about safeguarding and supervision.
- The inspector talked to parents to gather their views of the setting.

Inspector

Genevieve Mackenzie

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager has an excellent self-evaluation process. Together with staff, she uses this process to reflect on their practice and identify strengths and weaknesses to improve the experiences they provide for children. In addition, parents and children contribute their suggestions and give feedback. For example, children draw pictures every week of what they enjoyed doing and what they would like to do next week. Their feedback is displayed and staff add these suggestions to the weekly planning. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a good safeguarding knowledge and have kept up to date with new legislation. This helps them to implement effective procedures to safeguard children's welfare. The manager implements an effective programme of professional development and staff use what they learn to provide stimulating experiences for children. For example, staff recently revised snack time to encourage children to develop their social and communication skills further. The manager and staff have built strong relationships with the local primary school. For example, they have changed the format of their observations and assessments to ease children's move on to reception class.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of teaching is good. Staff take children on outings, such as to parks and woodlands. Children learn about people who help in their community. For example, they had a visit from some firefighters. Staff provide activities and invite parents in to teach children about diversity and cultural celebrations. Children develop their physical skills and their understanding of the world. Staff develop strong and supportive relationships with parents, who are very happy with the progress their children make. Parents feel the communication and information sharing between home and setting is a particular strength, and the weekly plans they receive help them extend their children's learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff form secure relationships with children, effectively promoting their emotional well-being. Children share and take turns, and play confidently and happily in the setting. Staff encourage children to be independent and to think for themselves. For instance, while building a camp, staff helped children to make decisions about what they needed to do next by asking probing questions. Staff have a positive approach to children, praising them regularly for their participation. Staff speak to children about unacceptable behaviour in a calm and caring way, and share their expectations with them. Children behave well.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress. They are all learning with confidence and independence. They are independent, form friendships, develop their concentration skills and express themselves confidently. They are well prepared for their next stage of learning, including starting school. In addition, staff quickly identify and support those children with special educational needs to help them make rapid progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	122501
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	846209
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	37
Name of provider	Sparrows Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	26 January 2012
Telephone number	0208 394 1914

Sparrows Pre-School registered in 1991. It operates in Stoneleigh, Surrey. The pre-school serves the local and surrounding areas of Stoneleigh, Worcester Park and Ewell. The pre-school is open Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 12 noon during term time, with younger children attending the afternoon session from 12.45pm to 3.15pm. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years. There are 12 members of staff employed; of whom, one holds Qualified Teacher Status, two hold relevant level 6 qualifications and six hold qualifications between level 2 and level 4.

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