

Huntington Pre-School

Memorial Hall, Strensall Road, Huntington, York, North Yorkshire, YO32 9SH



Inspection date

5 November 2015

Previous inspection date

23 May 2011

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

- The quality of teaching is good. Early writing and mathematical skills are promoted well to help children develop essential skills in readiness for their future learning at school.
- Staff skilfully support children with additional needs. They incorporate the targets of specialist services into their educational plans for children. This helps all children to make good progress towards the early learning goals.
- Key-person relationships are strong. Children new to the pre-school are supported well and settle quickly. They develop a strong relationship with their key person and seek them out for support and reassurance.
- Partnerships between parents and the pre-school staff are strong. Parents are extremely supportive of the pre-school. They talk positively about the care and support staff provide for their children.
- Staff have good partnerships with other settings that children attend. This helps to support continuity in children's learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff solve children's problems too readily, without giving them time to think of solutions for themselves.
- The information staff collect from parents when children register is not always precise enough to accurately identify children's initial developmental levels and starting points.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- allow children to have more time to think of solutions to problems they encounter
- collect more detailed information from parents about what children can do when children start at the pre-school.

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 manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager. 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

Eileen Grimes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The leader and staff demonstrate a good understanding of how to protect and safeguard children. All staff are fully aware of their responsibility to report any concerns about children's well-being and are confident in their ability to recognise child protection issues. Recruitment and vetting procedures are thorough and this helps to ensure that the best staff are employed. Effective monitoring of staff's practice is in place and staff are supported by a programme of training. They share the new knowledge they gain from training courses at staff meetings. This means that they can further build on and support each other's knowledge and understanding. Staff evaluate all areas of the pre-school life. Parents are asked to give their views through the comments box and questionnaires. Staff implement effective changes, such as recent improvements to the outdoor area to support the learning of all children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching and learning are good. Children are eager to investigate and enjoy the many varied experiences on offer. They are interested in exploring with floating and sinking in the puddles outside, as they see how many cups it takes to sink the container. Staff support children in investigating change as they make marshmallow lollipops for Bonfire Night and they discuss the changes in the melted chocolate. Staff maximise small-group time with their key children very well and children are engaged and eager. Staff use these times to model counting and looking at letters in children's names. Staff use their knowledge and experience to identify and assess children's ongoing development. They regularly share these assessments with parents and encourage them to provide information on what children have been doing and learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and confident and enjoy their time at the pre-school. Staff have clear expectations of behaviour and are good role models for children. The outdoor area is used well. Children have fun playing with the leaves and enjoy looking at books with their key person. Children are encouraged to teach each other new moves in the outdoor play area. They enjoy the praise they receive from attentive members of staff. Children learn to recognise signs of when they are hungry and they eat their snack when they are ready. Staff are patient with them as they use knives to prepare their own snacks and pour drinks into glasses. Staff reinforce safety issues and children are very pleased when they are able to do it for themselves.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are eager to learn and engage well. Information gained from assessments is used well to track the progress of individual and groups of children. Staff have an accurate understanding of children's development to ensure that children are well prepared for their next stage in learning, including when they move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	321584
Local authority	York
Inspection number	868715
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	22
Number of children on roll	37
Name of provider	Huntington Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	23 May 2011
Telephone number	01904 750258

Huntington Pre-School was registered in 1970. The pre-school employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school opens each weekday from 9am to 12 noon and 12.30pm to 3.30pm, term time only. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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