

Blackberry Lane Pre-School

Edinburgh Close, Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO31 8HF



Inspection date

6 November 2015

Previous inspection date

25 March 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff and the manager use detailed self-evaluation procedures to develop staff skills, practice and maintain continuous improvement for children. This has a very positive impact on the quality of teaching and the activities to support children's learning.
- There are excellent partnerships with parents, who are fully involved in their children's learning. The staff team ensures they listen to the views of the parents and use this information when planning activities for the children.
- All children receive exceptional support from the highly motivated staff. They provide an abundance of fun activities and experiences to interest children.
- Children make exceptional progress in relation to their starting points. Staff use their detailed observations of children's progress to assess to plan for the next steps in their learning.
- Children form exemplary relationships with staff and other children. Children learn to be respectful and consider the feelings of their friends. This helps to promote their emotional well-being extremely effectively.
- The manager drives improvement through setting extremely high standards and supporting staff in meeting them. As a result, the quality of teaching is outstanding.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to strengthen partnerships with other settings to support children even more effectively as they move on to school.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff interactions with the children and the quality of teaching during a range of activities across the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to parents, staff and children.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records, policies and procedures, and evidence of the suitability of staff.

Inspector

Jayne Godden

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The managers have exceptionally high expectations for the children and staff. This is reflected in the activities staff provide and their motivation to constantly build on children's interests and learning. Exceptional monitoring procedures ensure that staff constantly track children's progress and identify any gaps in learning. Staff use their excellent knowledge of the children to provide support to help children close those gaps. This includes using additional funding to source speech and language support. The manager implements comprehensive policies and procedures. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have an excellent knowledge of the children and know the signs to look for which could indicate a child is at risk. Staff have excellent opportunities to extend their professional development. The manager ensures they have regular meetings to receive training, coaching and support to maintain their high-quality practices.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The quality of teaching is outstanding. Staff assess where children are in their development using their expert knowledge of how children learn. They use an excellent range of methods to expand children's thinking. For example, they skilfully ask questions and give them time to think and respond with their own ideas. Children show extremely high levels of concentration. For example, they become totally engaged in a play dough activity. Staff provide additional materials, such as sticks, which children use in their models. Children create pretend birthday cakes and snowmen and use the sticks imaginatively to create candles and hair for the snowmen. Children make excellent use of the whole environment to develop and extend their learning. Staff have built relationships with some schools. However, this is not yet fully developed to support all children as they move on to schools near where they live.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff build excellent relationships with families and children during the settling-in period. Children quickly develop confidence in their new surroundings and are ready and eager to start learning. Staff encourage children to be independent and manage their own personal care routines, such as washing their hands before eating. Children behave exceptionally well. They understand the importance of sharing, taking turns and working together to resolve any conflicts.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Outcomes for children are outstanding with all children making exceptional progress. Children show high levels of enthusiasm and are exceptionally keen learners. They develop an exemplary range of skills ready for their next stage of learning and the move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY300951
Local authority	Isle of Wight
Inspection number	827057
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	77
Name of provider	Blackberry Lane Pre-School
Date of previous inspection	25 March 2009
Telephone number	01983 298344

Blackberry Lane Pre-school registered in 1978. It operates from a building within Cowes Primary School in Cowes, Isle of Wight. The setting is open each weekday, term time only, from 8am until 6pm. The pre-school employs 13 members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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