

# Half Pint Nursery

Purleigh CP School, Pump Lane, Purleigh, Chelmsford, Essex, CM3 6PJ



<b>Inspection date</b>	22 October 2015
Previous inspection date	15 March 2012

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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 management team demonstrates passion and dedication to providing the very best outcomes for children. They have high expectations of themselves and the staff team. Managers and leaders fully understand their roles and responsibilities in meeting statutory and other government requirements.
- Staff are well qualified and experienced. Teaching is consistently good and sometimes outstanding. The staff know their individual key children well. They plan interesting and exciting activities to keep children motivated.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent. Staff encourage parents to get involved with their children's learning by providing home learning ideas. In addition, parents regularly contribute to children's learning records. This ensures there is continuity of learning between the nursery and home.
- Children behave exceptionally well. They share resources and show kindness to others. Staff model good behaviour and have high expectations of children, giving them opportunities to take on responsibility for small tasks.
- Children are emotionally well prepared for school. Links with the host school are excellent. Children visit the school to attend events. In addition, teachers and older children from the school visit the children in the nursery to read stories.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- The very strong teaching skills of some staff are not yet consistent across the nursery.
- Some staff do not use questioning effectively to consistently extend children's learning during activities.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities to increase the consistency of staff practice so that all children benefit from even better quality learning experiences
- make better use of effective questioning to set challenges for children, extend their thinking skills and encourage them to share their ideas.

### 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 nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Sharon Alleary

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff demonstrate a good understanding of how to protect and safeguard children. They know the correct procedures to follow should they have concerns about a child's welfare. The management team place high priority on providing staff with regular opportunities to discuss individual children. In addition, they are able to share any other issues they may have regarding their day-to-day work. Staff are continually encouraged to update and develop their childcare knowledge. The management team regularly reviews the quality of the nursery practice and sets clear targets that take into account the views of children, parents and staff. Parents comment positively on the care and support they receive from staff.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make accurate assessments of what children can do. This information is used to good effect and staff plan individual learning opportunities for each child. Staff show a genuine interest in what children are doing and encourage them to play and explore. Children enjoy some interesting and novel learning experiences. They practise their writing skills using a carrot in sand. They watch in amazement as the letters disappear when staff shake the tray. Staff support children's communication and language skills well. They talk with children as they play, encouraging them to build their vocabulary and confidence in speaking out. However, not all staff make good use of questioning techniques to help children explain their thinking or consider new ideas. Children join in with group activities, such as welcome time and letter sound sessions. Children engage with great enthusiasm and follow instructions well.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and confident in the nursery. They settle in quickly because staff work closely with their parents. Staff are calm and kind. They frequently praise children's achievements. This supports children to feel good about themselves and promotes their emotional well-being. The environment children play in is inviting and stimulating. Children access the resources independently and are well motivated to explore and learn. Staff display children's work attractively on the wall. This promotes children's sense of belonging and they develop a feeling of pride in their work. Children learn about the importance of fresh air and exercise and most children choose the outdoors to play. This promotes their physical development extremely well. Visits from members of the community provide children with opportunities to learn about people beyond the nursery.

### Outcomes for children are good

The management team analyse how well children are progressing. They take effective action to address any groups of children or aspects of the educational programme that appear to be less successful. Staff provide an environment where all children thrive, including those in receipt of funded early education. All children make good progress in their learning and development and some make rapid progress from their starting points.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY331747
<b>Local authority</b>	Essex
<b>Inspection number</b>	862498
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	30
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	30
<b>Name of provider</b>	Half Pint Nursery Partnership
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	15 March 2012
<b>Telephone number</b>	01621828734 (term time)

Half Pint Nursery was registered in 2006. The nursery employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one at level 2. The nursery opens each weekday from 9.05am until 2.45pm during school term times. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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