

Adventure Pre-School

Grove Hall, Grove Park, Carshalton, Surrey, SM5 3AL



Inspection date	16 November 2015
Previous inspection date	15 January 2009

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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff recruitment and vetting procedures are thorough. Management are particularly successful in recruiting and retaining well-qualified and enthusiastic staff. This helps maintain good quality teaching.
- Staff have a strong understanding of their key-person responsibilities and meet these extremely well. Staff have excellent relationships with children and parents, which helps them to meet children's individual needs very well.
- Staff are particularly successful in helping children develop pencil-control skills. For example, writing resources are in plentiful supply within the environment. Children make good use of these, for instance, to caption their detailed drawings.
- Staff plan and provide a good range of activities, such as nature walks, and weekly exercise and sessions, to help promote good health and well-being.
- Parents are kept well informed about children's individual progress and learning needs, and the terms curriculum plans. For instance, staff provide them with ideas for supporting and extending children's learning at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The setting's processes for evaluating the quality of teaching and planning do not always enable staff to highlight very minor gaps, such as in the resourcing of imaginative play.
- Staff do not always make the most of the strategies they have to further support the progress of children learning English as an additional language.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review and strengthen arrangements for evaluating the effectiveness of activity planning
- further increase the level of support provided for children learning English as an additional language.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children engaged in activities inside and outside.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation relating to safeguarding, children's progress, staff suitability and self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke to staff and had a meeting with the provider.
- The inspector conducted joint observations with the provider.

Inspector

Amanda Tyson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Management has a good understanding of the requirements and meet these well. Staff roles and responsibilities are clearly defined and there are good procedures in place for working in partnership with external agencies if the need arises. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an up-to-date understanding of the procedure to follow if they are concerned about a child's welfare. Management are committed to continuous improvement. Staff have opportunities to attend training and to gain higher level qualifications. They make good use of what they learn to improve practice, such as planning for sensory play. Overall, management make good use of self-evaluation to identify and target priorities for improvement. For example, they are currently trialling options for recording and tracking children's progress electronically to reduce paperwork.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan a good range of activities, many of which challenge and inspire all children's interests very well. For example, children remained in deep, concentrated experimental play with ice. They were intrigued to find a trapped polar bear inside the iceberg. Staff cleverly used this opportunity to help children to think how to free it which occurred later in the day when the ice melted. Staff plan a daily group activity for their key children and lead these well. For example, children are helped to talk about the items they bring in for home to represent the colour, number of letter sound of the week. Staff seize opportunities to extend children's learning, for instance to help them recognise the similarities between an octopus and octagon using the first three letter sounds and the number eight.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are cared for in a very welcoming and well-resourced play and learning environment. They are happy, show an excellent sense of belonging and have high levels of confidence and self-esteem. For example, children proudly show visitors their super written and creative work which is displayed on the walls. Their behaviour is exemplary. For example, children patiently take turns to cut their fruit, listen attentively to each other's news during small group time and eagerly help to keep the environment tidy. Staff teach children how to manage their own personal care, such as toileting and dressing themselves. Children learn about diversity through highly effective activities that link to different festivals, and books and toys that promote positive images of ethnicity, gender and disability.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress and are well prepared for moving on to school. For example, they learn to recognise letter sounds, their name, numbers, shapes and colours. Children confidently express their views and have strong social skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	139972
Local authority	Sutton
Inspection number	841400
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	61
Name of provider	Beverley Mallen
Date of previous inspection	15 January 2009
Telephone number	020 3632 1937

Adventure Pre-School registered in 1992. It is privately owned and operates from Grove Hall, in Grove Park, Carshalton, which is within the London borough of Sutton. There are six staff employed who work directly with the children each session. The provider works at the setting for part of the week. Five staff hold appropriate early years qualifications and one member of staff is currently working towards a childcare qualification. The pre-school receives funding for early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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