

Mill Hill Pre-School

Mill Hill East Church, Salcombe Gardens, Mill Hill, London, NW7 2NT



Inspection date

8 January 2016

Previous inspection date

3 March 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Children make exceptional progress in their learning and development in relation to their starting points. They are well prepared for any changes to their routine and are rapidly gaining the necessary skills they require in readiness for school.
- Children are exceptionally well cared for by very experienced staff, who skilfully promote their learning and meet their individual care and learning needs.
- Children develop an extremely close bond and strong relationship with staff, which effectively supports their personal and emotional development. Children show they are happy, and feel safe and secure.
- All the staff have an excellent understanding of their role and responsibility to safeguard children, prioritising children's safety and welfare at all times.
- Staff have an exceptional relationship with parents and provide ample opportunities for them to participate in their children's learning. Key persons regularly share information with parents, so they have a clear picture of children's learning needs.
- The manager uses a highly effective system to evaluate the provision and to achieve excellence. Staff regularly reflect on their practice, using feedback from parents, children and other professionals, to enhance their professional development, which has been of direct benefit to the children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to build even further on children's already excellent mathematical skills, particularly to promote a greater understanding of mathematical language.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the range of activities, both inside the pre-school and during outdoor play.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled relevant documentation, including children's records, the setting's policies and procedures and self-evaluation processes.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with parents and took account of their views about the pre-school.

Inspector

Anahita Aderianwalla

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Highly qualified and skilled staff have an excellent understanding of their roles. They work extremely closely with parents and the local authority to evaluate the service they provide, and they regularly attend additional training. The manager places a sharp focus on evaluating staff practice and implements robust systems to manage their performance. She ensures the quality of teaching remains highly effective. She uses rigorous monitoring systems to swiftly identify and close any gaps that may emerge in children's learning. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an excellent understanding of what they must do if they have a concern about the welfare of any child. They maintain all documents and implement the setting's policies and procedures to a high standard.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children make excellent progress, particularly in relation to their starting points. The highly skilled staff guide and extend children's learning across all areas of learning. For example, children confidently write and recognise the letters of their name, and identify shapes and different colours. Staff know the children exceptionally well and provide challenging activities that effectively support their next steps. Children are excellent talkers, for example, they engage in meaningful discussions with others, which maintain their concentration effectively; although, at times, staff miss some opportunities to build further children's increasing awareness of mathematical language. Children engage in a range of physical activities, including in the garden, and socialise well, such as when visiting their local community. Staff undertake precise observations and assessments and skilfully use these to inform their planning. They work closely with parents to gather information about children's initial interests and achievements at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are very happy and content. Staff implement robust settling-in procedures to meet their individual needs and parents' wishes. They establish excellent relationships with children to promote their emotional well-being and ensure they feel safe. Children behave exceptionally well. They learn to share and take turns, and have deep respect for others who may be different from themselves. Children learn about the importance of remaining healthy. They take part in a range of outdoor activities, which enables them to develop excellent physical skills. Staff establish very strong links with other agencies and schools, and continue to work together with parents by sharing information to support children's progress.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are eager and motivated to learn. They try ideas out for themselves, showing great perseverance in succeeding. Children gain valuable skills for their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	147584
Local authority	Barnet
Inspection number	841773
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	27
Name of provider	Mill Hill Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	3 March 2009
Telephone number	0208 959 9669

Mill Hill Pre-school registered in 1965. The setting is located in Mill Hill, in the London Borough of Barnet. It is open each weekday from 9.15am to 12 noon and 1pm to 3.30pm, during term time only. There are five members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications from at least level 2. The provider receives funding to offer free early education for children aged three and four years.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

