

Brambles Pre-School and Out of School Club



Warwickshire County Council, Thorns County First School, Blackthorn Road, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 2DS

Inspection date	7 January 2016
Previous inspection date	15 September 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

- Experienced, well-qualified staff promote children's learning effectively. They carry out regular assessments of children's development and plan accordingly for the next steps in learning. This helps to ensure children make good progress.
- Children are happy in the child-friendly environment. They have access to a wide range of resources and play cooperatively with others. They form good relationships and identify special friends by name.
- Managers and staff undertake regular training, such as promoting children's language skills. They use the knowledge gained to tailor strategies to support those children who have less well-developed speaking skills effectively. This helps to ensure gaps are closing.
- The partnerships with parents are successful. Parents have opportunities for in-depth discussions about their child's progress at key-person meetings. Parents are extremely pleased with the way in which staff nurture children's confidence and self-awareness.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always provide enough opportunities for children to choose resources and direct their own learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to choose their own resources during activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises with the manager.
- The inspector observed teaching and learning activities indoors and carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a sample of policies, children's assessment records and materials used to support children's development.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children and reviewed the setting's self-evaluation form.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, staff and parents spoken to on the day of inspection.

Inspector

Adelaide Griffith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff have a good understanding of their responsibilities to protect children and to report concerns. The recommendations from the last inspection are effectively addressed and the manager regularly monitors all aspects of practice. Supervision arrangements are in place and staff have opportunities to discuss their professional development. Parents receive consistent information about their child's learning and care. The provider monitors the view of parents regularly and obtains positive feedback. For example, parents are extremely pleased with the high level of communication and the caring staff. The provider works closely with other professionals to promote children's learning and care effectively.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children develop essential skills because staff support them effectively in their learning. Staff provide suitable activities according to children's preferences and allow time for them to practise skills. Children play imaginatively and have opportunities to explain their ideas as they have meaningful conversations with staff. They follow children's lead and include games that promote phonics in a fun way. Children's independence is fittingly promoted as they freely join or leave activities. Older children write recognisable letters of their name and all children are fully engaged during activities. Staff skilfully integrate the recognition of colours and shapes into activities, including those in the environment. They provide high levels of challenge for children to do simple number calculations and to measure materials. Staff regularly monitor the progress of groups of children to ensure they achieve the expected level of development. Children enjoy rewarding experiences in the setting because they are motivated to learn.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children form very strong bonds with key persons, who have a nurturing attitude and promote children's well-being commendably. The settling-in phase is tailored to children's individual needs and they have sufficient time to grow used to the setting. Children are very well behaved and learn to have respect for others because staff model positive interaction with colleagues. Children learn to take turns at using equipment, such as computers, by checking egg timers. Children develop a good understanding of healthy foods, which are provided in their lunch boxes. They have opportunities for physical exercise indoors and outside on a daily basis. Children's sense of achievement is well promoted because staff consistently praise their efforts and involvement during learning and play activities. Well-chosen examples of print in the rooms enable children who speak English as additional language to make connections between their first language and English.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those in receipt of funded education, are well prepared for the next stage in learning. They make good progress from their starting points and are interested in learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	200830
Local authority	Warwickshire
Inspection number	864038
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 11
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	89
Name of provider	Thorns Community Trust
Date of previous inspection	15 September 2011
Telephone number	01926 854486

Brambles Pre-School and Out of School Club was registered in 1981. The setting employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, 12 hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 2 to 7. The setting offers a pre-school provision during term time from 9am to 12pm or 1pm Monday to Friday. On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday the hours are extended to 2.45pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The before- and after-school club operates during term time from 8am to 8.50am and from 3pm to 5pm or 6pm. A holiday club runs from 8am to 6pm every school holiday, except for a week at Christmas. The setting has close links with Thorns Community Infant School.

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