

# Lilypad Preschool

Bishops Waltham County Infant School, Oak Road, Southampton, SO32 1EP



<b>Inspection date</b>	14 January 2016
Previous inspection date	8 July 2011

<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 manager leads the pre-school well. She and her staff constantly strive to make improvements. They are reflective, thoughtful and proactive in making changes.
- Children develop warm relationships with the caring staff. They are happy and confident learners and welcome the staff's involvement in their play.
- The well-qualified staff have a good understanding of how children learn and develop. They assess and track children's progress regularly, identifying any gaps in their learning, to help them plan activities that help children to achieve.
- Staff manage children's behaviour well. They provide clear explanations to help children know what they expect of them. Children show respect for each other, take turns and share toys.
- The manager supports staff's professional development well so they build on their skills and gain new qualifications. This helps them to deliver good quality teaching and effectively support children to make good progress from their starting points.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager does not ensure staff are fully aware of all children's individual learning needs and next steps, to help them adapt activities and support children more effectively.
- Systems do not support staff well enough to exchange information with parents successfully, so they can extend children's learning at home.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen staff's knowledge of individual children's learning needs so that they can adapt activities, support children more effectively and target their next steps in learning
- strengthen the two-way exchange of information with parents so they can support their children's learning further at home.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the manager, chair of the committee, staff, parents and children at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed staff and children's interactions during planned activities and children's play.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation related to the management of the pre-school.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

### Inspector

Jacqueline Good

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager's effective support of staff helps them to work closely as a team. She monitors their practice well and ensures children benefit from staff training. This has helped boys especially so that they develop their early writing skills. The manager and committee regularly reflect on the service provided and the progress children make. They take account of the views of parents, children and staff. This helps the manager to identify and target improvements effectively overall, to provide good quality care and learning experiences for children. Staff work effectively with other agencies and providers, so children benefit from the consistent approach to meeting their needs. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a clear understanding of the importance of keeping children safe. They know the procedure to follow should they have any concerns about a child's well-being.

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

Staff provide a stimulating environment where children make choices about their play. Resources are plentiful and easily accessible, both indoors and outdoors. The staff's positive interaction skilfully motivates children to learn and promotes their active learning effectively. For example, children enjoyed exploring objects with a magnifying glass, working out which way to move the magnifying glass to change the size of the image. Children enjoy being creative and imaginative. For example, in the home corner, they took on the role of cook, preparing and serving lunch for their friends. Staff build well on children's developing understanding of colour, number and shape during their activities. Staff work closely with parents to accurately measure children's starting points. They use this information and their ongoing assessments to plan the next stages in learning.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are keen to attend and display good levels of confidence and emotional security. They respect the boundaries and routines that staff consistently promote, and play well with others. Staff provide good opportunities for children to become independent and do things for themselves, especially at mealtimes. Children select from nutritious snacks and discuss which foods are good for them. They learn about a healthy lifestyle and understand the benefits of eating healthily and taking part in regular exercise. Staff regularly risk assess all areas of the premises to promote children's safety. Children learn how to keep safe and they are confident to take risks relevant to their age and ability.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident, independent and keen to learn. Their pre-school experiences prepare them well for the next stage in their learning and for school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY338740
<b>Local authority</b>	Hampshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	834901
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	24
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	45
<b>Name of provider</b>	Lilypad Preschool Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	8 July 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	01489892375

Lilypad Preschool registered in 2006. It operates from a classroom within Bishops Waltham Infant School located in Bishops Waltham, Hampshire. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. It is open each weekday during school term times from 8.45am to 3.15pm. There are eight members of staff, all of whom have appropriate early years qualifications from level 2 to level 6.

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