

Westwood Farm Community Pre-School

Community Centre, Downsway, Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire, RG31 6SL



Inspection date	13 January 2016
Previous inspection date	24 February 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- Effective teaching and good levels of individual attention help children to enjoy their learning and to do well. Observation and assessment are timely, accurate and used effectively.
- Positive and nurturing relationships support children's self-confidence and help them to settle quickly into the pre-school. Children behave well. They develop positive relationships with others, sharing and taking turns.
- Parents are unanimous in their support for the pre-school. They feel well informed about their children's progress and how to support learning at home. There are positive and purposeful relationships with staff and other professionals.
- The leadership team has an excellent overview of the staff practice, quality of teaching and the progress children make. Self-evaluation is ongoing and effective and supports a robust plan for continuous improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The organisation of some group activities does not always enable all children to take part fully.
- Children's next steps are not always clearly presented so parents find it hard to become involved in working towards them at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make children's next steps for learning clearer so that staff and parents are able to understand them and better support children to work towards them
- organise group activities more effectively to ensure that children are fully supported and engaged.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children during activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector looked at samples of children's assessments and records, and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector spoke with the staff, children and parents at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector met with the chairperson, manager, staff and a representative from the local authority.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Melissa Cox

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff induction, training and supervision procedures ensure staff know what to do if they have a concern about a child's development or welfare. Staff are well deployed and risk assessments are thorough. The leadership of the pre-school is effective and the manager and chairperson are ambitious and confident in their roles. The manager has created a climate of reflection and improvement which has led to a number of positive improvements since the last inspection. Staff are supported through regular supervisions, ongoing training and targeted reviews. Effective systems are in place to monitor the progress children make. There are effective partnerships with other settings, including the children's centre. This ensures continuity of learning and ensures that families get the support they need.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a secure understanding of how children learn through play. They use effective teaching skills to help support children's communication and language development as they encourage them to talk through their ideas, for example, when building brick houses. Staff readily join in with children's play and successfully extend children's thinking and creativity. For example, as they designed a house of straw, staff referred back to the story, supporting children in predicting what needed to happen next. This helped children find solutions to problems and to follow their own ideas. Children enjoy a vibrant learning environment and this helps them to make independent choices as they play. They relish learning outside and investigate and explore as they mix their own potions using a range of tools in the outdoor mud kitchen. They actively engage in activities that promote their early literacy and mathematical skills as they dance and sing during rhyme time.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are attentive and respond well to children's individual needs. Children are offered cuddles, comfort and reassurance when they need it and are made to feel important and valued. This is reflected in their high levels of confidence, self-esteem and kindness to others. Children enjoy a wide range of healthy snacks and show high levels of independence as they manage their personal needs effectively. Children enjoy being outdoors and physically active. This contributes to promoting their understanding of a healthy lifestyle. There are good opportunities for them to learn how to manage their own safety and become aware of the needs of others. Staff are highly responsive to the needs of children to secure their safety, well-being and readiness for school.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who receive funded early education, are making good progress. They are confident communicators and motivated learners. They are gaining the skills to support them in their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	110747
Local authority	West Berkshire (Newbury)
Inspection number	1008072
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	47
Name of provider	Westwood Farm Community Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	24 February 2015
Telephone number	01189 429865

Westwood Farm Community Pre-School registered in 1975. It is based in the community centre, adjacent to the Cotswold Sports Centre, in the Tilehurst area of Reading, West Berkshire. Sessions run Monday to Friday from 9.10am to 11.40am and from 12.40pm to 3.10pm, term time only. A lunch club runs between these sessions, from 11.40am to 12.40pm, to enable children to access full-day care. A total of 13 members of staff are employed to work with the children, of whom 11 hold relevant qualifications at level 3. The pre-school is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early years education to children aged two, three and four years.

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