

# Rainbow Preschool

The Old Clinic, Downham Road, Ely, Cambridgeshire, CB6 1AF



## Inspection date

14 January 2016

Previous inspection date

5 October 2011

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

- The well-established, qualified team work efficiently together to support each other and develop their skills to enable children to achieve at the highest level. Leaders act promptly to secure targeted training in order to provide development opportunities for staff to enhance children's learning experiences.
- The quality of teaching is consistently outstanding. Staff intuitively build on children's interests to provide rich and imaginative experiences. Children are deeply engaged in their activities and are highly enthusiastic in their investigations.
- Staff regularly observe the children as they play. Using their expert knowledge of how children learn and develop, they make precise assessments of children's progress which are fully shared with parents and other providers children may also attend.
- Parents are extremely positive about the pre-school. They share that they are well informed and actively involved in their child's learning journey.
- Leaders implement highly effective systems for self-evaluation and regular reviews of children's progress. They use this information to improve and develop practice and to ensure all children achieve their best potential.
- Staff ensure settling-in arrangements are flexible to sensitively meet children's individual needs when they start. Children settle quickly, establishing secure attachments with staff. They are confident and thrive in the caring, friendly environment the staff create.
- Children's behaviour is extremely good and they show high levels of self-control and respect for each other. Staff are superb role models who calmly and consistently support children to learn what is and is not acceptable behaviour.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to make the most of professional development opportunities to sustain and enhance further the excellent quality of teaching, in order to support children to achieve their best potential.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and provider. She spoke to staff and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school and of committee members.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

**Inspector**  
Gail Warnes

## Inspection findings

### **Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding**

The provider and the newly appointed manager work extremely well together. There is a shared vision for the continued improvement and development of the pre-school. Leaders continually target staff training to further enhance the quality of teaching. Together with the staff, they form a highly effective team and are passionate about assuring children's safety and opportunities to thrive. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Meticulous attention to legal requirements ensures only suitable adults work with the children. All staff are knowledgeable about potential threats to children's welfare. They know what to do should they have such concerns. Leaders use the information they gather about the different groups of children that attend effectively. They ensure all children access all areas of learning. They promptly identify any gaps in individual children's progress and successfully implement strategies to support children to achieve well. Staff establish effective partnerships with other providers to promote continuity in children's care and learning. Partnerships with local schools are highly successful in ensuring children are confident and well prepared for the next stage in their learning.

### **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding**

Experienced and qualified staff are dedicated to providing the highest levels of care and learning opportunities for all children. They observe the children as they play and intuitively challenge and develop learning experiences through children's individual interests. Older children investigate capacity and scales of measurement during play with pasta. They correctly identify the numbers on the scales and speculate how much more pasta is needed to reach specific weights. Staff challenge children's deeper thinking to find their own solutions, one example being when they encourage children to consider how to weigh more pasta when the bowl is full. Younger children explore the environment confidently. They investigate the concepts of light and dark, and cause and effect. They explore different light sources with staff, such as torches and balls which light up when bounced. Staff talk to children as they play using a range of strategies to support their early communication and language skills.

### **Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding**

Staff are kind and support children and their families well. They take time to support children's emotional well-being from the start. Children are confident, curious, active learners who enjoy exploring their environment. They learn about their community as they regularly spend time with the elderly and visit the local library and cathedral. Children learn about healthy lifestyles through a range of activities which include growing their own vegetables. Staff teach children to keep themselves safe at all times, such as road safety on outings. Equality of opportunity is promoted at all times, and peer friendships flourish. Children enjoy taking responsibility for appropriate tasks in the pre-school.

### **Outcomes for children are outstanding**

All children make rapid progress given their starting points and capabilities. Children acquire excellent skills and develop positive attitudes to learning, in order to support their future education.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	221724
<b>Local authority</b>	Cambridgeshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	854590
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional 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>	1 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	20
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	55
<b>Name of provider</b>	Rainbow Pre-School (ELY) Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	5 October 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	01353 667283

Rainbow Preschool was registered in 1992 and is run by a committee. The pre-school employs six members of childcare staff, four of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The preschool opens Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 9.15am to 11.15am and 11.45am until 2.45pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and from 9.15am to 11.45am and 12.15pm until 2.45pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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/](http://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](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk).

This publication is available at [www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354](http://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](http://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](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted)

© Crown copyright 2015

