

Feniscowles Pre-School

Feniscowles Methodist Church, Preston Old Road, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB2 5ER



Inspection date

15 January 2016

Previous inspection date

22 November 2012

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

- The acting manager and staff know the children very well. Staff plan a wide range of interesting and challenging play opportunities and activities to support children's next steps in learning. All children, including disabled children and those with special educational needs, make good progress in their learning from their starting points.
- Partnerships with parents and other professionals are good. Staff are swift in recognising and dealing promptly with any emerging learning needs of individual children. Staff are proactive in ensuring that the correct procedures are put in place to support children to make good progress. Parents are regularly updated with information regarding their children.
- The acting manager and committee show a strong commitment to improving outcomes for children. They have addressed previous actions and maintain continuous improvements at the pre-school. They regularly seek the views of parents and other professionals, and make improvements that benefit children and their families the most.
- Staff are warm, caring and are good role models for children. Children are valued and made to feel welcome. They display good levels of confidence and self-esteem. Children are very well supported to develop their independence. They make choices about their play and are encouraged to pour their own drinks and choose snack items.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The acting manager does not yet fully monitor information about the progress made by different groups of children.
- Sometimes, staff do not use a wide range of questioning techniques to extend children's language and thinking.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- evaluate information about the progress made by different groups of children and close any identified gaps in their learning
- improve opportunities and techniques that challenge children to think and extend their vocabulary even further.

Inspection activities

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

Inspector

Donna Birch

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Clear policies, procedures and risk assessments are in place. These are regularly reviewed, understood and implemented by all staff. The acting manager works directly in the rooms with children; this helps her to actively support staff to improve their personal effectiveness. Staff are encouraged to attend further training and share good practice across the team. Staff work closely with local schools and other early years providers. They regularly share information about children's care and learning. The acting manager and staff work closely with the committee. Together they are working on development plans to help secure the future success of the pre-school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy playing with a good selection of high-quality toys and resources. Activities are based on children's interests and the environment is adapted to support their learning well. This contributes towards children being motivated and they can explore freely. Children develop their small physical skills as they excitedly experiment with paint. They use their hands to feel the paint and use small vehicles to make different patterns. In the role-play home area, children work well together, play cooperatively and use their imaginations. Children learn about risk and challenge and have opportunities to test their ideas. For example, they build a bridge with large blocks and check to see they can safely balance on it. Children are developing good mathematical skills. Staff encourage them to count during everyday activities and routines, and use some mathematical language as they play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have many opportunities to develop their understanding of adopting a healthy lifestyle. They enjoy a wide range of fruits and vegetables as snacks, with milk and water readily available. Children have access to a suitably resourced outdoor area. Children are taken out into the local community and to various places of interest. This helps them to develop their confidence and social skills away from the setting. Calm and consistent messages are relayed by the staff to children. This, together with reminders to share and take turns, reinforces children's understanding of acceptable behaviour. Children have a good understanding about hygiene practices. They wash and dry their own hands before snacks and after using the toilet.

Outcomes for children are good

Outcomes for children are good and they are well supported by staff. Observation, assessment and planning are used well. This helps children make consistently good progress and they are acquiring the skills they need for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	301689
Local authority	Blackburn
Inspection number	1028213
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 - 4
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	24
Name of provider	Feniscowles Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	22 November 2012
Telephone number	07789162214

Feniscowles Pre-School was registered in 2001. The pre-school employs five members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 3 to 5. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 12pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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