Holbrook Community Pre-School



North Heath Hall, St. Marks Lane, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 5PU

Inspection date	8 February 2016
Previous inspection date	30 September 2010

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and ma	nagement	Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and asses	sment	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 quality of teaching is outstanding. Staff make excellent use of detailed assessments to ensure that they provide high levels of challenge to all children. Children are constantly engaged and make exceptional progress.
- The environment is highly stimulating. Staff provide challenging activities that focus on children's interests. Children are happy and separate easily from their parents.
- Staff promote children's awareness and sense of safety extremely well. They constantly promote children's independence and allow them to take safe risks, such as hammering nails into pieces of wood.
- Staff know children extremely well. Settling-in procedures include home visits and encouraging parents to spend time with staff so that they have a secure knowledge of children's interests and individual needs.
- Partnerships with parents and other settings that children attend are highly effective. Parents are very involved in their children's learning and future plans for development. Staff constantly share information and value the information that is shared with them.
- Managers and staff are highly committed to continuously improving. They work closely with parents to identify further ways to improve. They have made excellent progress towards previous recommendations which has had a positive impact on staff practice.
- Children behave exceptionally well. They have an excellent understanding of what staff expect and treat their friends and staff with great care and consideration.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

strengthen further the opportunities for children to see and use print in the outdoor environment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor environments.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector viewed some children's development records and tracked their progress.
- The inspector took part in a joint observation with one of the supervisors.
- The inspector spoke to some of the parents to gain their feedback on the setting and staff.

Inspector

Hannah Barter

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a fully embedded knowledge and understanding of their roles and responsibilities in protecting children from harm. The manager monitors staff training very effectively, which ensures all staff have an up-to-date knowledge of practice and legislation. In addition, regular team meetings enable the manager to cascade new information to staff immediately. The manager has innovative monitoring systems which track individuals and groups of children. This enables her to identify any gaps in the provision and target specific areas quickly. Recruitment procedures are robust and ensure the suitability of staff. Since the previous inspection, staff receive a mentor to support them in their role, and peer observation assists staff extremely well in their continuous development. For example, the manager identifies additional training to improve the quality of teaching further still.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Observation and assessment of children's learning are highly impressive. Staff skilfully plan and extend exciting and interesting learning opportunities which challenge children's current stage of development. Staff exhaust learning opportunities but also give children time to explore. For example, children spoon flour into a bowl and watch for the number they need on digital scales. They have an impressive knowledge of numbers and quickly match them to the number on the recipe sheet. Staff encourage children to touch and feel the ingredients and describe what they feel like. Children confidently 'read' their recipes using pictures, and staff extend their learning by encouraging children to recognise letters. Staff extend children's natural play ideas very well. For example, while playing with rockets, staff use the internet to develop children's knowledge of the moon.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff resource the area with an extensive range of activities and toys. There is a reason for everything staff provide, which demonstrates the thought and commitment they give to meeting children's needs. Children arrive happily and have an excellent understanding of the routine. For example, they self-register as they arrive. Children take part in outings within the community. For example, children walk to the post office to buy stamps so they can post their Valentine's Day cards. Children have constant access to the outdoor area where they thoroughly enjoy a number of games. However, there are fewer opportunities to see and use print in their games compared to the indoor environment.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make outstanding progress in relation to their starting points. They are excited and keen to learn. Children have strong physical, communication and independence skills, which prepares them exceptionally well for their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number 113525

Local authority West Sussex

Inspection number 825036

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 2 - 4

Total number of places 28

Number of children on roll 40

Name of provider

Holbrook Community Pre-School Committee

Date of previous inspection 30 September 2010

Telephone number 9pm to 1230 pm 01403265793

Holbrook Community Pre-School is a committee-run group which registered in 1991. It operates from North Heath Hall in Horsham, West Sussex. The setting is open Monday and Friday from 9am until 12pm, Tuesday and Thursday from 9am until 1pm, and Wednesday from 9am until 2pm, during term time only. The setting employs 10 staff; of those, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications. The setting receives free early years education for children aged three and four years.

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