

The Brambles Community Pre-School

Byron Road, Southampton, Hampshire, SO19 6FH



Inspection date

6 January 2016

Previous inspection date

19 January 2011

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Good | 2 |
|--|----------------------|-------------|---|
| | Previous inspection: | Outstanding | 1 |
| 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

- Children make good progress in their learning and development. Children play and learn well together; they are happy and settled.
- Staff have a good knowledge of children's development and monitor their learning carefully to plan activities that help to promote their next steps in learning. Staff follow children's interests to extend their learning and promote children's physical skills well.
- Staff help children learn to get along and develop strong relationships. Children are respectful, tolerant and confidently tell others when they are worried.
- The managers help staff to continually develop their skills. They monitor the work of the staff to ensure they deliver good quality teaching.
- The managers work well with parents, who say that they are well informed about their children's progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently challenge the most able children or fully support those who are new to learning English. For example, they do not reshape activities quickly or imaginatively enough to further extend all children's learning.
- The managers evaluate the pre-school provision to identify areas for improvement. However, the committee does not fully monitor or engage the staff in the long term development plans to drive greater improvements.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the challenge for the most able children and increase the support for those who are new to learning English
- engage all those involved in the evaluation of the pre-school to plan more rigorously for continual improvements.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing inside and outside, planned activities and the staff interaction with the children.
- The inspector met with the manager and conducted a joint observation.
- The inspector spoke to parents, children, the chair of the committee and staff at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed a range of documents, including children's assessment records, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector reviewed evidence of staff qualifications and their suitability.

Inspector

Janet Dinsmore

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The managers share the responsibility for the day-to-day running of the pre-school. They follow clear procedures to protect children's welfare and know how to report any concerns to keep them safe. Safeguarding is effective. The managers work well with a range of other professionals to help meet and support children's needs. The committee monitors the work of the managers and staff practice effectively. The managers have well-established relationships with the school, children's centre and local community, and together they support families that particularly face challenging circumstances. Staff accurately assess and record children's development. They share children's progress online with parents, who say they value this information. The managers train staff to assess children's early language development, and staff use sign language, for example, to support children's speech development effectively.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and use their knowledge well to assess children's learning accurately. They plan activities that develop the children's interests. For example, when children construct a tower, staff extend their mathematical skills by teaching them about size and measure. Staff discuss what children are doing and carefully ask questions to help them think and express their ideas. Staff accurately identify when children require additional help and provide good support to help them catch up. For example, they make good use of signs and symbols to help all children communicate and develop their language skills. Staff provide the youngest children with a good range of resources to explore and investigate to help them learn and discover how things work.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children learn to manage their behaviour well. Staff encourage children to share, take turns and get along together. Children are independent in all aspects of their personal hygiene. They are confident and know how to ask for help, for example, when they want to use the balance equipment. Children learn to ride bicycles safely and use a good range of outdoor equipment, which helps to contribute to their physical well-being. All children are secure and settled because they have close bonds with the staff who know them really well. Parents highly value staff; they comment that staff understand their children as well as they do.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and development. All children who require additional help catch up quickly. They learn a good range of skills that prepare them well for school.

Setting details

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Unique reference number | EY222661 |
| Local authority | Southampton |
| Inspection number | 826368 |
| 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 | 64 |
| Number of children on roll | 99 |
| Name of provider | Brambles Community Pre-School Committee |
| Date of previous inspection | 19 January 2011 |
| Telephone number | 07842 241499 & 02380917637 |

The Brambles Community Pre-School registered in 2007. The pre-school operates from a room in the Sure Start Children's Centre situated on the grounds of Thornhill Primary School in Southampton. It opens Monday to Friday, during term times only. Sessions are from 9am to 11.55am and 12 noon to 3pm. There is a lunch club for children staying all day or arriving for the afternoon session. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years. There are 17 staff; of these, 15 hold early years qualifications at level 3 or above.

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