

# Smiles Pre-School

Norman Rodaway Pavilion, Heath House Lane, Southampton, SO30 0LE



## Inspection date

24 March 2016

Previous inspection date

14 July 2010

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 manager and staff are enthusiastic and committed to providing the very best care and education for all children. They have highly effective methods for rigorously monitoring and developing practice, such as examining and adapting the learning environment to ensure the outcomes for all children are as high as possible.
- Staff establish very strong attachments with the children and are highly skilled in supporting all children and their families. Children settle extremely quickly and demonstrate very high levels of self-esteem and security in readiness for school.
- Staff skilfully use their expert knowledge and teaching to extend children's thinking and problem-solving skills, and capture high levels of interest and engagement.
- The manager and staff closely monitor all children's progress and ensure they target children's individual next steps highly effectively in the activities and support they provide. They work extremely closely with parents, other professionals and settings children attend to ensure they consistently support children to reach their potential.
- Children behave impeccably. Staff provide clear and consistent explanations that help children understand their high expectations of behaviour. Staff cleverly explain the impact of unwanted behaviour calmly and sensitively, which helps children understand why rules are necessary.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to monitor the effectiveness of large group activities to extend children's learning even further.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playroom and outside.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children, and the provider's self-evaluation form and improvement plan.
- The inspector sampled children's records, planning documentation and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.

### Inspector

Jacqueline Good

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff all have an exceptionally secure understanding of child protection issues and procedures to keep children safe. The manager promotes an extremely positive culture of reflective practice, seeking and quickly acting upon the views of staff, parents and children. She constantly makes ongoing improvements to benefit the children. Highly effective monitoring identifies any differences in the rate of progress between different groups of children, enabling staff to respond swiftly. For example, they used more focused planning and better positioning of activities to enable boys and girls to progress equally successfully with developing their early writing skills. Staff attended training to enhance their skills and ensure activities for the younger children are relevant to their needs and interests. This outstanding approach to continual development ensures standards stay high and children thrive.

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

Highly skilled staff encourage children's creative thinking, communication and language skills exceptionally well. For example, staff expertly encourage children to imagine and describe the kinds of food their model robot might eat and how to decorate it. Staff provide a wealth of exciting learning opportunities to motivate and stimulate all areas of learning. For example, outdoors, children immerse themselves in digging up and washing vegetables. Staff skilfully extend children's ideas, asking probing questions to further encourage conversation and exploration, such as where other foods come from. Staff capture children's enthusiasm and build on their skills during large group activities, such as with counting, and music and movement. Occasionally, younger children become a little restless, although staff meet their needs extremely well overall.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children learn to take care of their personal needs, developing strong independence skills. They flourish as they learn important social skills, demonstrating excellent cooperation and negotiation as they play with one another. Older children are particularly caring towards younger children, helping them when they try something new. Children learn to consider and manage risks successfully themselves. For example, when climbing, they know to put down toys and keep both hands free to minimise their risk of falling.

### Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make exceptional progress. They are extremely confident communicators and have excellent mathematical skills to count and solve problems. Younger children quickly learn to recognise their names while older children begin to link sounds to letters and attempt to write words. Children display very high levels of concentration. They work together exceptionally well and become engrossed in the activities.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	110034
<b>Local authority</b>	Hampshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	824924
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time 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>	2 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	53
<b>Name of provider</b>	Carol Mason
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	14 July 2010
<b>Telephone number</b>	07866130828

Smiles Pre-School registered in 1992. It operates in Hedge End, Southampton. The pre-school is open from 9am to 3pm on Mondays to Thursdays and from 9am to 12 noon on Fridays, during term times only. There are nine members of staff, eight of whom hold early years qualifications at level 3 and one at level 2. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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