

Brook Early Years

Beechwood Junior School, Juniper Road, Southampton, SO18 4EG



Inspection date

23 March 2016

Previous inspection date

2 February 2012

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

- Leadership and management of the pre-school are dynamic, and staff are highly motivated. For example, staff quickly and skilfully implement the new ideas that they gain from training to enhance the outcomes for children's care and learning even further.
- Staff's partnership working is outstanding. For example, other providers children attend are often invited to share information about children's learning and progress, enabling everyone to work together successfully to provide children with very consistent support.
- Staff have an excellent knowledge of the children they care for, and children form very close relationships with them. The observation process is completed meticulously and staff accurately assess what children know and can do. Planning leads to children making as much progress as they possibly can, focusing sharply on highly stimulating, challenging and innovative activities.
- Staff have an excellent understanding of their role in promoting children's development. For example, children's communication and language skills develop continuously and successfully through rich and meaningful conversation and activities.
- The environment, indoors and outdoors, is exceptionally well resourced with materials that can be used in a variety of ways. These effectively support children's sense of curiosity and their natural desire to explore and investigate. Children are very enthusiastic, independent and motivated learners who thrive in their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen even further the new system for tracking children's learning, to help staff and parents use it more easily.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children during activities in the main playroom and the outdoor learning environment.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager of the provision, and spoke with parents, staff and children.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation, policies and procedures, and feedback from parents.
- The inspector checked self-evaluation processes, the improvement plan, and evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children.

Inspector

Rachel Cornish

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The managers have very high expectations and constantly evaluate staff practice and children's learning. For example, they are implementing a new system for tracking children's learning even more precisely, although they have not implemented it fully for staff and parents to use easily. The managers carry out highly effective professional support for staff, who are eager to maintain their outstanding teaching and help children to make exceptional progress in their learning. For example, following training, all staff introduced signs and symbols to strengthen children's communication and language. They use them constantly, enabling all children to benefit consistently. Safeguarding is effective. The managers and staff have an excellent understanding of their responsibility to protect children from harm.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff know children extremely well. They make excellent use of information from parents to meet children's individual learning needs. Highly effective arrangements ensure that parents play a full and active role in supporting their children's learning in the pre-school and at home. Staff use superb strategies to promote children's language and enable children who have special educational needs to make excellent progress. For example, children take part in specific group activities that capture and hold their attention. This enables staff to introduce new words and demonstrate their meaning in a highly effective way.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Parents and children have excellent relationships with their key person, supporting their move into pre-school extremely sensitively. This contributes significantly to providing security and stability for children and reassurance for parents. Children are very happy, showing incredible confidence emotionally and in their physical skills. Staff make excellent use of their knowledge and training to manage children's behaviour. For example, staff engage children in discussions at the beginning of each session to check that they understand the clear boundaries and rules. Children display excellent behaviour, working together exceptionally well and becoming engrossed in activities. Staff promote children's health and physical well-being exceptionally successfully, enabling them to play safely.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All groups of children make very good progress and those who need extra help catch up very quickly in readiness for school. Children practise and excel in a range of skills, including early writing. For example, children re-order numbers one to 10 correctly and write them. They display high levels of concentration and cooperation, persevering in all that they do. Children are extremely imaginative and gain an excellent sense of personal satisfaction from their independent investigations and thinking things through logically.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY427742
Local authority	Southampton
Inspection number	822759
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	44
Number of children on roll	99
Name of provider	Brook Early Years Committee
Date of previous inspection	2 February 2012
Telephone number	02380 332 557

Brook Early Years registered in 2011. The pre-school is situated within the grounds of Beechwood Junior School in Bitterne, Southampton. The pre-school is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. It operates from 8am until 3.30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, and from 8.30am until 3pm on Thursday and Friday, during term time only. There are 10 members of staff employed to work with the children; of these, three hold Early Years Professional Status, one holds a qualification at level 5 and five hold qualifications at level 3.

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