

Southampton (Hardmoor) Opportunity Group



Hardmoor Early Years Centre, Leaside Way, Southampton, SO16 3EP

Inspection date	13 April 2016
Previous inspection date	19 January 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 committee, manager and staff team demonstrate an extremely strong commitment to maintaining a high-quality provision. They consistently build on the service they provide for children and their families.
- Staff use their high-quality observations to assess each child's progress and learning extremely accurately. They tailor planning to ensure children receive outstanding care and learning opportunities.
- Children are eager to explore the challenging and stimulating environment. They learn to make their own decisions and become totally absorbed within their chosen play.
- The manager uses a highly effective monitoring system to help all children, including children who have special educational needs or disability and those who are learning English as an additional language, to make excellent progress relative to their starting points.
- The manager and staff have strong partnerships with the on-site nursery. They foster this relationship by actively working together. Staff support children exceptionally well during periods of change as they move on to the next stage of their learning.
- Staff know children exceptionally well. They treat each child as an individual and consistently give children time and emotional support to help them manage their own feelings and behaviour.

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 already excellent partnerships with parents to encourage children's learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the nursery and invited the manager to take part in a joint observation.
- The inspector observed the quality of staff interactions with children.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, chair of the committee and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector looked at various documents, including policies and procedures, risk assessments, staff training records, records for children and evidence of the suitability of staff.

Inspector

Jane Franks

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The committee and manager ensure staff have an exceptionally robust understanding of the procedures to follow if they have a concern about a child. They ensure staff use the thorough risk assessments to maintain an extremely safe environment for children. The manager provides staff with exceptional support and training; she continuously seeks more ways to strengthen the learning opportunities for children with staff. For example, staff foster children's emotional well-being in the well-planned outdoor areas and challenge their skills and curiosity. The manager works extremely closely with staff and parents to carefully monitor and successfully reduce any gaps in children's development. She is keen to enhance partnerships with parents to an even higher level to support their children's learning at home. Partnerships with other professionals are highly effective in supporting children's care and learning needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff provide excellent teaching for children, extending their abilities and helping each child to achieve. Staff's support for children's language and communication development is exceptional; they offer superb levels of interaction. For example, they skilfully introduce new words and tailor the support they provide to ensure the right level of challenge for all children. Staff foster children's understanding of the world around them. For example, children love to visit the woodland area and show care and concern as they feed the chickens. Staff build on these excellent opportunities to develop children's mathematical skills. For example, they help children to make predications and decide which pieces of fruit and toast will slot through the different sized holes in the fence to feed the chickens.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The relationships between children and staff are exemplary. All children are highly valued and receive an extremely warm welcome. Staff help children to grow in confidence and to have a real sense of achievement. Staff consistently praise children and acknowledge what they have done. They provide many opportunities for fresh air and exercise. For example, children fed the chickens with enthusiasm and spent time exploring and investigating the wide range of natural resources outdoors.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are self-confident and highly motivated in this nurturing environment. They persevere and become highly inquisitive learners. For example, they learned about size and speed and had a great time experimenting as they rolled balls and onions down tubes of different sizes. Children learn to make independent choices and show high levels of interest and concentration. They rapidly develop the skills they need for the next stage in their learning, including to the move to nursery and on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	131559
Local authority	Southampton
Inspection number	825505
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	0 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	37
Name of provider	Southampton (Hardmoor) Opportunity Group Committee
Date of previous inspection	19 January 2010
Telephone number	02380 552 220

Southampton (Hardmoor) Opportunity Group is a committee run group and a registered charity. It registered in 2001. It occupies two rooms in the Hardmoor Early Years Centre, in the Bassett area of Southampton. The setting specifically supports children who have special educational needs or disability, and children who are learning English as an additional language. The group is open on Wednesday and Friday, and on every other Saturday during term time only. The group employs seven staff who work directly with the children. Six members of staff are qualified at level 3 or above.

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