

Sunbeams Pre-School

Stepsgates Primary School, Steppages, Chertsey, Surrey, KT16 8HT



Inspection date

14 April 2016

Previous inspection date

20 June 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

- The highly dedicated management team is extremely supportive of staff. Managers inspire staff to achieve the highest standards in teaching and learning.
- Teaching is outstanding. Staff have an excellent understanding of how young children learn and plan a range of exciting, innovative and inspiring activities. For example, children relish the excitement of a water pistol game aimed at promoting mathematics and delight in the sensory experience it provides.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent. Staff work closely with parents and use a range of highly effective ways to engage them in their children's learning. For example, they produce resources, known in the pre-school as 'chatter bags', for children to take home to support their communication and language skills.
- Key persons know their children extremely well and meet their individual needs very effectively. All children make excellent progress from their starting points.
- There is a highly robust system for monitoring children's progress and achievements. The manager carries out a detailed analysis of children's learning and development, and evaluates the progress of groups of children meticulously. Staff value the contribution that children make to this process.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- implement plans to further extend the excellent opportunities for children to use technology to enhance their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching and the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff and parents.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and a range of other documentation, including evidence of staff suitability, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector completed joint observations with the manager.

Inspector

Anne Clift

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The management and leadership team is fully committed to ongoing improvements and has a clear vision for the future. Managers evaluate the service they provide meticulously and offer excellent support for staff. For example, staff supervision is highly effective and focused training helps staff to enhance their practice further. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are very well trained in safeguarding issues and are continually vigilant. The nursery has established strong and very useful partnerships with other settings, including the local school. For example, they work very closely together on joint projects to provide excellent support for children's early literacy skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff are extremely responsive to the needs and interests of children. They skilfully adapt activities to challenge children further in their learning and make timely interventions to provide support. Staff provide children with excellent opportunities to follow their own ideas. For example, children decided to enhance their role play costumes by making hats. Staff support children's communication and language skills expertly. For example, they are highly skilled in using questions that extend children's thinking and encourage their use of language. Staff promote children's curiosity of the world they live in. For example, children rush to see how their tadpoles have changed overnight and talk animatedly about them. Staff have identified a goal to continue to develop the range of resources to help children learn to use technology.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children flourish in the pre-school. Staff create a highly stimulating environment with extensive opportunities and resources for play, exploration and discovery. Children have excellent opportunities to learn about staying safe. For example, they lead the daily risk assessment. They are quick to identify potential risks and work out how to deal with these. Staff offer consistent praise and encouragement. Behaviour is superb and children play harmoniously with their friends, such as helping one another and sharing. There are extensive and exciting physical challenges outdoors. For example, children concentrate deeply as they practise their balancing skills to negotiate the exciting obstacle course.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are exceptionally motivated, inquisitive and fully immersed in their learning. They delight in working things out for themselves; for instance, they explained precisely how they solved a mathematics problem. Children are extremely independent and staff place a high priority on promoting this. For example, following a rain shower, children used their own initiative and fetched towels to dry the play equipment. All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make excellent progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY421895
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	822704
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	61
Name of provider	Sunbeams Pre-School Limited
Date of previous inspection	20 June 2012
Telephone number	01932562394

Sunbeams Pre-School registered in 2011. It is situated within the grounds of Stepgates Community School, Chertsey, Surrey. The provision operates Monday to Friday from 9am to midday, and Monday to Thursday from 12.30pm to 3.30pm, during school term time only. There is an option for children to attend an additional lunch club session between midday and 1pm. The provider employs nine members of staff, six of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or level 3. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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