

Davidson Pre-School

408 Davidson Road, Croydon, CR0 6DD



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

14 April 2016

7 February 2011

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 pre-school is exceptionally well organised and managed. Staff keep parents very well informed about their children's progress and provide excellent ideas on how to support them at home. Children make excellent progress from their starting points.
- Children enjoy an excellent range of highly stimulating activities inside and outside. This helps them to follow their interests and use their imaginations extremely well.
- Staff use thorough and careful assessments to help children make the best possible progress. For example, they very quickly identify any gaps in children's learning and swiftly provide additional support to help them reach their full potential.
- Staff talk to the children in a very respectful and calm manner. Children make friends and learn to manage their own behaviour extremely well. The highly effective key-person system helps to support children to form very close relationships and to feel safe, secure and ready to learn.
- Staff are well qualified and continually develop their knowledge and skills, which helps them to improve their practice and provide the very highest quality outcomes. For example, after attending training on improving the outside environment, staff have increased the challenges and opportunities for creativity for those children who learn best outdoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the already excellent systems for self-evaluation to gather more in-depth ideas and views of parents to continue to improve practice even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at the premises and observed the activities on offer inside and outside.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector talked to the manager, staff, the proprietor and parents.
- The inspector looked through a range of policies and procedures and discussed practice.
- The inspector looked at a sample of children's learning journals and noted children's progress.

Inspector

Karen Callaghan

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager is an exceptionally strong leader and actively supports the highly dedicated and stable staff team. Staff have an excellent understanding of the requirements and use their exceptional knowledge and skills to help them plan for the best possible outcomes for children. Managers and staff are highly effective in evaluating the quality of the setting and are fully aware of how they can build on this even further. Safeguarding is effective. Staff's knowledge of child protection is excellent and they know the procedures to follow should they have any concerns about a child in their care.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff expertly follow and plan for children's individual needs and interests and are highly responsive. For example, they suggest other ideas to help make sure that children have easy access to excellent resources. Staff know each child and their families very well and they use this in-depth knowledge to great effect to plan exceptionally well-targeted challenges to strengthen children's skills. Routines for the day are clear and children develop excellent skills in readiness for the next stage in their learning. For example, they have excellent opportunities to write down and choose their activities. Staff are highly skilled in engaging children fully throughout each session to maximise their learning. Excellent links with local schools help staff to share information about children's achievements very efficiently to help provide continuity.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff use excellent settling-in procedures, which helps children to become very confident to learn in the very secure environment. For example, they readily ask for help when they need it and play alongside their friends extremely amicably. Staff are polite and very good at listening. They are highly skilled at knowing when to intervene and do so very calmly to help show children how to respect others' needs. Children thoroughly enjoy using the 'magic room', where they actively explore sensory resources, such as lights. Staff also use this area very effectively during small group times. For example, at the inspection, staff brought a story to life as children used hand puppets to enable them to take a highly active part. During this excellent and highly motivating session, children learned about feelings through the puppets, allowing them to talk and discuss very freely.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children learn to take care of their own needs from a young age, for example, putting their name cards on the register board and pouring drinks at the snack table. Older children are very well prepared to take their first steps on to school. For example, they show excellent literacy skills, such as knowing how to read and write their own name. They develop excellent physical skills, such as climbing, running and balancing.

Setting details

Unique reference number	124931
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	825345
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 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	33
Name of provider	Davidson Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	7 February 2011
Telephone number	07534096682

Davidson Pre-School registered in 1993 and operates from a converted school building in Croydon. Sessions are from 9.30am to 3.30pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and from 9.30am to 12.30pm on Mondays and Fridays, during school term time. The pre-school receives funding for children aged two to four years. There are five members of staff, all of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications.

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