

Mini Marvels PreSchool Limited

Stambridge Memorial Hall, Stambridge Road, Rochford, SS4 2AR



Inspection date

18 April 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff successfully observe and assess each child's progress and achievements. They provide children with interesting activities to meet their individual learning needs, both indoors and outside. Children make good progress and develop the skills they need for their future learning.
- The key-person system is effective. Staff are clear about their role in helping children form secure relationships. They help children settle and feel at ease as they know each child's unique preferences and what comforts them.
- Staff build effective partnerships with parents and other early years professionals. They successfully work together to meet children's individual care and learning needs. Effective channels of communication are established, particularly in relation to the care of those with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- The manager and registered provider are reflective and recognise the strengths and weaknesses of the provision. There is a strong drive to improve the pre-school, raise standards and promote the best possible outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager has not yet established a highly successful system to monitor and review the progress of different groups of children.
- Although staff benefit from frequent discussions about their performance, the programme for continuous professional development is not yet sharply focused on raising the quality of teaching to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor the progress of groups of children and use this information to assess whether the provision for different groups can be enhanced further
- enhance the existing arrangements for performance management to ensure that all staff continue to build on their teaching skills, and extend children's learning to the highest level.

Inspection activities

- This inspection was carried out as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received from the provider.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with the pre-school management, staff and children.
- The inspector viewed a sample of the children's development records.
- The inspector reviewed evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the staff, self-evaluation, risk assessments and policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day, and parents' responses to surveys organised by the pre-school.

Inspector

Patricia Champion

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Stringent recruitment procedures ensure that staff are skilled and suitable. Staff have a good knowledge of the safeguarding procedures to follow to protect a child's welfare. Following a recent incident when a child was left unsupervised in the garden for a couple of minutes, the provider notified Ofsted in line with legal requirements. The provider took immediate and effective action to rectify security and review staff deployment to ensure children's safety and prevent the likelihood of such an event reoccurring. Policies, procedures and risk assessments in relation to outdoor play have been strengthened. Staff now rigorously carry out head counts to check that all children are closely supervised and have returned from playing in the garden. The staff team is well qualified and has opportunities to complete training courses. However, professional development has recently focused on the legally required aspects of training, rather than enhancing the quality of teaching and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan an interesting blend of adult-led and child-initiated learning. They provide children with ample opportunities to think for themselves and solve problems. Children enjoy counting and calculating using number rhymes, and during routines and practical activities. They are excited and intrigued by new resources that help them play imaginatively and develop their understanding of how things work. Staff develop children's communication skills as they listen perceptively and ask questions to develop their vocabulary. Children learn to listen attentively as they follow stories and enjoy looking at books for pleasure. Parents are kept fully informed about their children's progress. Staff have good strategies in place to engage parents in their children's learning, both in the pre-school and at home. Parents say they are very happy about the service provided. They say their children are very keen to attend and they are especially happy about their children's progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children readily manage their personal care tasks, developing good levels of independence. Staff are calm role models who show kindness, respect and value children's views and opinions. Children behave responsibly and learn essential social skills. They build strong friendships as they share ideas and enjoy doing things together. Children learn about keeping themselves safe and healthy. Snacks are varied and nutritious. Additional funding is used effectively to boost children's confidence and to help them make good progress in their physical development.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. Any gaps between the attainments of individual children are starting to close due to early identification and the extra support from staff and outside agencies. Children become confident, independent learners who play cooperatively together. They are well prepared for the move to full-time education.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY485742
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1047947
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	26
Number of children on roll	46
Name of provider	Mini Marvels Pre School Limited
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07981967604

Mini Marvels PreSchool Limited was registered in 2015 and is run by a limited company. The pre-school employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, one member of staff holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 5, one member of staff holds a qualification at level 4, four staff hold a qualification at level 3 and two staff hold a qualification at level 2. The pre-school also employs an administrator and two bank staff. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, during term time. Sessions are from 9.15am to 4.30pm on Monday to Thursday and from 9.15am to 12.15pm on Friday. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports children with special educational needs and/ or disabilities.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

