

Midway Preschool

Midway Hall, James Street, Midway, SWADLINCOTE, Derbyshire, DE11 7NE



Inspection date

26 April 2016

Previous inspection date

25 June 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Leadership is strong and there is a clear motivation to develop. The manager and her team have high expectations. They accurately identify priorities for improvement, such as developing the outside environment.
- Staff provide a friendly and well-resourced environment. Children are happy and develop close attachments to staff. The key-person system is effective and is one of the ways staff help children to settle into the pre-school.
- Staff observe and assess what children can do and use the gathered information to good effect. Staff effectively check on children's development over time and promptly identify gaps in children's learning. They then plan activities to close the gaps quickly.
- All children, including funded children, make good progress in their learning and development. Effective support is provided for children who speak English as an additional language.
- Staff role model good communication skills. Children are developing good communication and language skills. They are expressive and confident during their play and interactions with the staff and each other.
- Partnerships with parents are well established. There are good two-way systems for sharing information about children's needs and achievements. Staff keep parents well informed about children's development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not provide extra challenges that enthuse the most-able children to investigate even more.
- Staff do not organise story time well enough. They do not consistently focus on encouraging the full participation of all children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the quality of teaching so that staff provide even more challenging activities for the most-able children
- review the organisation of group activities and provide more opportunities to help all children extend their learning, paying particular attention to story time.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the children and staff at convenient times throughout the inspection. The inspector held discussions with the manager and deputy manager.
- The inspector observed activities indoors and outside, including snack and group times.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to some parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment and learning records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children. She sampled and looked at some of the policies and procedures and discussed the pre-school's action plan.

Inspector

Janice Hughes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager and her team are passionate and committed to providing a good service for children. There are effective monitoring procedures to check on children's progress and staff performance. The manager supports staff well and has high expectations of them. Staff regularly complete training and information gained is shared with the staff team to benefit children. The manager has addressed the recommendations from the previous inspection. She ensures the pre-school has public liability insurance and completes detailed risk assessments. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Children are safe and secure and staff are vigilant in their supervision. Staff know what to do and who to contact if they had a concern about a child. Partnerships with the local school and local authority are well established.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and experienced. They use their knowledge effectively and provide children with a wide range of purposeful activities. Teaching is good. Staff are very enthusiastic and interact with children in positive ways and promote children's learning very well. Staff provide positive guidance, and support most children well as they play. They plan many opportunities for children to enhance and develop their small-muscle skills. For example, children transport fir cones from one pot to another using tongs to pick up the cones. Children enjoy being creative and use paintbrushes and glue spreaders effectively. They enjoy playing in the sand and making patterns with the objects.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are well cared for by kind and attentive staff. Staff know the children well and provide a safe and nurturing environment. Resources are plentiful and offer children space to move around easily. The outdoor learning areas are a particular strength of the pre-school. Staff provide many opportunities that help develop children's physical skills and learn about the world around them. They are well behaved and older children are beginning to learn to respect each other's thoughts and feelings. They play harmoniously together, sharing toys and taking turns. Staff provide healthy snacks and promote healthy lifestyles. Children follow good hygiene procedures. Staff teach the children about keeping themselves safe effectively. Staff help children to be aware of the changes and expectations in preparation for moving on. Children develop positive social skills and relate well to the people around them.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress relative to their starting points. Children develop positive attitudes towards learning and are acquiring key skills in preparation for school. Children learn to concentrate and listen most of the time and are proud of what they achieve. Children develop increasing independence in self-care skills, such as personal hygiene routines and managing their clothing. Children develop good literacy and mathematical skills. Children develop their imagination skills well. For example, they thoroughly enjoy playing in the vet role-play area and helping the animals get better.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY437752
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	1042152
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	48
Name of provider	Midway Pre-School
Date of previous inspection	25 June 2012
Telephone number	07971 901 904

Midway Preschool was registered in 2011. It is run by a committee. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 9am until midday and 12.45pm until 3.45pm. There are six members of staff. Of these, all staff hold an early years qualification at level 3 or 5. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. They also support children who speak English as an additional language.

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