

Poundfield Pre-school

The Community Hall, Radcot Close, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 7UJ



Inspection date

29 April 2016

Previous inspection date

11 September 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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

- Children develop strong attachments to their key persons. This enables them to develop high levels of independence and emotional security.
- The manager and staff team work well with each other to offer the children a well-resourced and purposeful environment. Children are highly motivated to explore and learn. They are able to choose freely from a wide range of activities and resources that cover all seven areas of learning.
- Key persons plan activities for individual children and are skilled at including, and fully engaging, all children in these activities. This includes those identified as being in need of additional support. As a result, children make good progress in their learning.
- Strong and effective links exist between staff, parents and any other agencies involved to ensure children's needs are met and that none are disadvantaged.
- The committee and manager have an effective plan for future developments. They collate the views of staff and parents to help them run the pre-school effectively.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always keep parents and shared carers up to date with changes to their children's next steps in learning and development to support continuity of learning.
- The organisation of routines at lunchtime does not enable staff to consistently support children in learning about healthy lifestyles.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the relationships with parents and shared carers so they are aware of their children's current next steps, to enable them to extend their children's learning at home
- improve staff deployment at mealtimes to consistently promote healthy lifestyles to children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed practice and staff interactions in the playroom and outside.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff, children and parents.
- The inspector invited the manager to complete a joint observation.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including children's records and planning, policies and procedures, and discussed improvement plans.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.

Inspector

Jan Harvey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leaders fully understand their responsibility for implementing the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Safeguarding is effective. There are clear procedures in place, and staff are aware of their responsibility to keep children safe, for example, by recognising signs that may cause concern about a child's welfare. Since the last inspection, staff have taken the opportunity to evaluate the provision and strengthen their professional practice and knowledge. For example, they have improved assessment and planning to improve children's outcomes, and provide a relaxed, exciting learning environment. The manager monitors children's progress to address any gaps in their learning. Parents are positive about the quality of care their children receive.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children develop early mathematical and literacy skills through their play. For example, during a role play activity, staff encouraged children to explore with shape, colour, and letter sounds. Staff promote children's communication and language development well. They make eye contact, model new words to younger children, and promote speaking and listening skills with older children. All children benefit from targeted small group activities where they learn new skills and develop their knowledge. For instance, children played with a skeleton, exploring the concept of bones in response to staff's questions. Staff prepare children well for school as they gain necessary skills and positive attitudes. For example, staff who have developed expertise through training in mathematics provide ways for children to count, recognise numbers and attempt early calculations.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have a strong sense of belonging in this nurturing and empowering environment. They develop high levels of self-confidence and independence. They self-register, put on their outdoor coats, and serve themselves fresh fruit and water. Staff promote children's understanding of healthy lifestyles through lively, physical play sessions. However, some opportunities are missed, for example, to develop children's understanding of healthy lifestyles during mealtimes. Children receive lots of praise for doing the right things, such as sharing and caring for each other. They fully understand acceptable behaviour and behave very well.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress relative to their starting points. Children have a positive approach to learning and develop skills that prepare them well for their future move to school. They take part in number games, puzzles and small world play, where they solve problems and complete tasks.

Setting details

Unique reference number	108438
Local authority	Windsor & Maidenhead
Inspection number	1028754
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	22
Number of children on roll	24
Name of provider	Poundfield Pre-school Committee
Date of previous inspection	11 September 2013
Telephone number	01628 621130 or 673571 (pm)

Poundfield Pre-school registered in 1977. It operates from the Poundfield Community Centre in the Furze Platt area of Maidenhead. The pre-school is open each weekday from 9.15am to 12.15pm during term time only. A lunch club operates Monday and Friday from 12.15pm until 1.30pm. The pre-school employs five staff. Of these, four hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3.

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