

Inspection date

9 May 2016

Previous inspection date

6 October 2010

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

- Children's welfare and protection are fully prioritised. Staff implement clear, up-to-date and extremely well-organised policies and procedures to keep children safe. All staff know how to act if they become concerned about the welfare of any child and can quickly access further guidance and contact numbers.
- Children make outstanding levels of progress during their time at the pre-school. They receive exceptional levels of teaching and nurturing from highly experienced and well-qualified staff. For example, the staff team includes early years and primary school teachers, a nurse, counsellor and special educational needs coordinator.
- Parents highlight the 'huge impact' that the manager has on creating an outstanding community for children and their families. They speak highly about the 'amazing' staff who nurture their children from very different starting points to a position where they flourish. Parents feel that the staff are inspirational.
- Staff teach children how to manage their own safety and to think about risk, for example, as they climb trees in the park. Children make very rapid progress in acquiring the self-help skills they need to become increasingly independent.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- work even more closely with parents and other relevant professionals to prepare children who have special educational needs as well as possible for their move to school.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a wide range of activities and care routines across the indoor and outdoor play areas. She talked with staff and children about what they were doing.
- The inspector reviewed documents relating to safeguarding, staff recruitment and self-evaluation, and checked a selection of other policies.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records and progress checks. She reviewed how the pre-school's planning linked with children's next steps in learning and outcomes.
- The inspector took account of the views of many parents spoken to on the day, reviewed how information is shared with parents and discussed management procedures with committee members.
- The inspector observed various group activities and undertook a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Helen Robinshaw

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager is exceptionally skilled in uniting high-calibre staff, a particularly well-informed parent committee and an expert support team. Safeguarding is effective. Children's protection and welfare are the highest priority. Highly experienced, well-supervised staff diligently review children's progress, and pinpoint what they can do next to help children reach their potential. The manager's astute evaluations continue to promote ongoing improvements across all areas of the pre-school. For example, she recognises the importance of exploring a wider range of guidance to help prepare children who have special educational needs as well as possible for their move to school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff inspire children with an extensive range of opportunities to explore, experiment and create. For example, children investigate different vegetables and think imaginatively about what grows under or above the ground. After much handling, comparison and discussion of favourite recipes, the children experiment with ways of using vegetables to paint and print patterns. Children have tremendous fun as they follow their own interests, for example, as they dig underground for treasure, and use magnifiers to locate insects above and below the ground. Parents highly praise the weekly planning. They know what the children are doing, how it relates to their children's progress and how to add to it.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children quickly settle and thrive at the pre-school. They form secure, trusting relationships with their key person, who effectively nurtures them towards confident, social and friendly behaviour. Children behave extremely well for their ages and routinely say 'excuse me' and 'thank you'. Older children notice when less experienced friends need help or encouragement. For example, they help others to wrap a bandage around a doll's arm or find another similar toy when their friends are not quite ready to share. Staff show high levels of respect to children, who learn to follow their excellent example.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children engage enthusiastically with an abundance of rich learning experiences on a daily basis. For example, they use the large hall to practise and master large movements, such as pedalling, climbing, kicking and throwing. They dance, sing and cooperate when making music together. Children learn to use equipment such as pencils, telephones and calculators, for example, as they pretend they are firefighters on call and doctors writing notes for patients. Younger children learn to count, sort and sequence items, such as animals beginning with their letter of the week. Older children excel in mathematics. For example, they begin to see and handle fractions as they pile up logs cut like pie charts. Staff prepare children extremely well for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY408568
Local authority	Richmond upon Thames
Inspection number	822559
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	40
Name of provider	Playwam Committee
Date of previous inspection	6 October 2010
Telephone number	07769614611

Playwam first opened in 1969 and registered at its current premises in 2010. It operates from St Marys Parish Hall in Teddington, Middlesex. The pre-school operates each weekday during school term time from 8.45am to 12.30pm. A breakfast club is available from 8.30am. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. All six staff hold appropriate qualifications. One staff member hold Early Years Professional Status and another holds Qualified Teacher Status. The remaining four staff hold qualifications at level 3.

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