

Buttons@Westcroft/Oxley

Westcroft Pavillion, Cranbourne Avenue, Westcroft, Milton Keynes, MK4 4DP



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

23 May 2016

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

- Children are safeguarded. All staff have good knowledge of local safeguarding procedures to protect children.
- The well-qualified and motivated staff know the children really well and plan challenging learning experiences, based on their interests. Children enjoy a wide range of enjoyable activities and make good progress in all areas of their learning.
- Staff work closely with parents to find out what children already know and can do when they start. Staff use this information to plan effectively for their next steps for learning.
- The manager and directors carefully monitor and identify where children may need extra support to access the learning environment and to catch up in their learning. They provide good levels of additional support to individual children when required.
- Partnerships with parents and others involved in the children's lives are very effective to support their care and learning. Parents are very well informed about their children's progress and staff share ideas to help them support their children's learning at home.
- Children follow good hygiene routines and learn about foods that are good for them.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The monitoring of staff practice is not fully effective in driving improvements in teaching even further.
- Occasionally, group story times are not always planned well enough to engage the younger children as much as possible.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- evaluate teaching practices more precisely and focus on professional development, to continue to raise the quality of teaching to the highest level
- plan the organisation of group times more effectively to fully engage younger children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector held discussions with children, parents and staff.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at observation files, monitoring systems, the self-evaluation form and a selection of policies and children's records.

Inspector

Kim Mundy

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff assess any risks to children in the environments they use to ensure children are continually safe, secure and well supervised. Safe recruitment and induction procedures ensure the suitability of the professional staff. The arrangements for staff supervision and meetings support effective team working and the role of the key persons well. Staff have good opportunities to attend training courses to further develop their skills. There is a strong commitment to continuous improvement. For example, staff reflect on their practice and value the views of parents and children as part of the pre-school's effective self-evaluation process.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a positive start for children's early education. They plan a well-balanced educational programme which captures the children's interest. For example, children enjoy tasting foods from around the world. Staff use effective teaching techniques to engage children in activities, such as questioning and demonstrating, as they enable children's language development. Children have many good opportunities to practise early writing skills. For example, during role play in the travel agents they write luggage labels and booking forms, and in the garden they use big brushes to make marks with water. Children use technology, such as calculators and telephones. They explore lifecycles and find out about their own and other people's beliefs. Children are imaginative and creative. For example, they join in art and crafts, music and dance, songs and rhymes. Children show a keen interest in books. For example, staff encourage children to recall stories and introduce rhyming words.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The key-person system is very effective. Staff help children to settle and to develop close emotional attachments. Children are kind and considerate towards one another. They enjoy praise and encouragement from staff, which boosts their confidence and self-esteem. Children learn to keep themselves safe as they use equipment, such as scissors. Staff teach children good manners and they follow behaviour guidelines, which helps them to concentrate and become successful learners.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good skills to support their future learning. They talk confidently and express their views. Children develop good mathematical and literacy skills. For example, they sort by size and recognise their name when they self-register. Children learn about letters and the sounds these make. They develop good physical skills. For example, they use tongs to pick up small objects and balance and slide on apparatus. All children make good progress and are well prepared for their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY478712
Local authority	Milton Keynes
Inspection number	979432
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 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	27
Name of registered person	Buttons Preschools Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901723
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07973 158368

Buttons@Westcroft/Oxley registered 2014. It is located in Milton Keynes. The pre-school operates term time only from 9am until 12pm and from 12pm until 3pm. The provider is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The provider employs four staff and they all hold relevant early years qualifications between levels 2 and 3.

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