The Wantage Nursery & Preschool



6-7 Church Street, Wantage, Oxon, OX12 8BL

Inspection date	12 August 2016
Previous inspection date	12 November 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 asses	sment	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 confident, happy and behave well. Staff are good role models, which helps children to learn what is acceptable behaviour and how to manage their feelings.
- Staff know children's interests, current skills and abilities. They regularly observe and assess children's development, and provide activities and experiences to engage and motivate them. Children make good progress and are ready for the next stage in their learning.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Parents receive a good range of information from staff. This helps them to be involved in their children's learning and support them further at home.
- Children have daily access to the outside area. They enjoy a range of opportunities, which helps to support their good health, well-being and physical development.
- The management and staff constantly reflect on what they do and identify targets for ongoing development. They have successfully addressed previous recommendations.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make the most of opportunities to extend children's early writing skills
- Monitoring procedures do not accurately identify the progress different groups of children make to plan for their specific needs and help raise outcomes for all children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen opportunities for children to practise their early writing skills
- develop further the existing monitoring processes to identify groups of children's progress and use this information to precisely plan for their specific needs.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector looked at a range of relevant documentation, such as the self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with children.

Inspector

Lesley Voaden

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager has a good understanding of her role and responsibilities. For example, she deploys staff to ensure that ratios are met and children are supervised. The manager completes checks on staff, such as suitability checks prior to allowing them to work with children. Regular ongoing training, support and coaching helps to develop staff's skills and practice, which benefits the children. Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand the correct procedure to follow should they have any concerns about a child's safety or welfare. In addition, risk assessment procedures help staff to identify and minimise all possible hazards to children. Effective partnerships with other professionals, such as schoolteachers, help to prepare children for the move to school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff interact enthusiastically with children and understand that children learn through play. Children have a positive attitude to their learning. They are engaged, motivated and curious learners. For example, children listen carefully to instructions, follow clues to search for pirate treasure and confidently count how many pieces they have found. Staff follow children's interests and use their good teaching skills effectively. For example, when younger children find spiders in the tyres outside, staff sing a song about spiders, which children readily join in with and use their hands to copy the actions.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff encourage children to become independent and learn to take care of their own needs well, relative to their ages and capabilities. For example, children help to lay the table and pour their own drinks at snack and meal times. Children have regular access to activities outdoors, which helps them to develop good physical skills. For instance, they enjoy using jugs and sieves to scoop up and move the sand around the sand pit. Older children set their own rules to keep themselves safe. For example, they remind each other to use the slide one at a time. Children have a wide range of opportunities to learn about the differences between themselves and others. For example, they are encouraged to talk about that they do for different festivals and as part of their religion and culture during small group work and at circle time.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident and independent. They make choices about what they like to do and begin to manage their own care needs. Pre-school children develop good mathematical skills. They add groups of objects, count beyond 10 and recognise numbers. They can also recognise letters and their sounds. Children develop good social skills,; for example, they share, take turns and play cooperatively with each other. They are motivated to learn and are ready for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY435803

Local authority Oxfordshire

Inspection number 1059060

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 0 - 5

Total number of places 49

Number of children on roll 54

Name of registered person Nigel Berridge

Registered person unique

reference number

RP516028

Date of previous inspection 12 November 2012

Telephone number 01235760213

The Wantage Nursery & Preschool registered in 2005. It re-registered in 2011 under new ownership as a limited company. The nursery is situated in the centre of Wantage, Oxfordshire. It is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm, all year round. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged three and four years. The nursery employs 10 staff, eight of whom hold relevant qualifications.

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