

Falconwood Preschool

Scout Association, 7th Welling, 30 Falconwood Parade, Welling, Kent, DA16 2PG



Inspection date	20 September 2016
Previous inspection date	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

- The friendly staff team is warm and caring. For example, staff welcome children enthusiastically at the beginning of the session, and remain at their level during play. Children build good relationships with the staff and each other.
- Staff provide good opportunities for children to develop their physical skills. For example, children join in with action songs, learn to use scissors correctly and enjoy pouring water through guttering on the water wall.
- Staff work closely with parents and other settings that children attend. For example, they share information about children's progress and give feedback on daily activities.
- Children learn about healthy lifestyles. For instance, they eat nutritious snacks and learn the names of healthy fruits during snack time and role play. Children have regular opportunities for fresh air and exercise.
- Staff receive ongoing mentoring to develop their teaching skills. For example, the manager observes staff during activities and provides feedback and individual support to identify and plan for any training needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, the planned groups prevent children from continuing to follow their own play choices. This occasionally distracts them from extending their own learning.
- Children do not consistently have opportunities to explore a range of materials to develop their imagination and creative play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the timing and content of any planned activities to ensure that they are engaging for all children and do not distract them from following their own play interests
- provide more opportunities for children to explore a range of materials to use their imagination and extend their creative development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children playing and interacting together.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their feedback.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documents, including evidence of staff suitability checks, staff training records and children's folders.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.

Inspector

Caroline Gibbons

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The new manager is enthusiastic and reflects well on the strengths and weaknesses of the pre-school. She is committed to providing positive outcomes for children and families and has taken advice from the local authority to enhance the pre-school. For example, she has extended her range of high-quality resources, and staff have worked with parents to respect and celebrate their diverse backgrounds. Also, she has introduced a new format for tracking children's progress to quickly identify any gaps in learning. Safeguarding is effective. Staff keep up to date with new knowledge. They know the process to follow if they have concerns about the welfare of children, or if they recognise that children are at risk of being exposed to extreme ideas.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know how to challenge children in their learning. For example, they encourage children's interest in the sand by adding water and talking about the beach and sea creatures. Also, children enjoy exploring the 'slimy' dough and flour. Children develop key mathematical skills. For example, they clap to 12 at register time and learn about 'heavy' and 'light' when using the scales. Staff help children to gain an interest in books to support their language. They use puppets when reading familiar stories, and encourage children to repeat regular phrases. Children are excited and engaged as they pretend to use telescopes and listen to the story from the wizard. Children enjoy the resources provided and make good progress in their learning from their starting points.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff place a high priority on children's emotional development and they work closely with parents to support children's individual needs. They provide flexible settling-in sessions and find out about children's home backgrounds and languages. Staff support good hygiene effectively and teach children to manage their own personal care. For example, they provide a 'nose-blowing station' with a mirror and sing a song about using the toilet and handwashing. Staff help children to behave well and to understand the rules of the pre-school. For example, they use 'thumbs up' pictures to praise good sharing and good listening, and they talk through the evacuation process with children.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop confidence and independence and are prepared well for their next stage in learning. For example, they help to prepare the table and carry the plates at snack time. They butter their toast and pour their own drinks at the 'water station'. Children develop good literacy skills, such as recognising their name on the register board, and follow simple instructions during stories and songs. They enjoy borrowing books from the pre-school library to share at home, and know which book bag is theirs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY478348
Local authority	Bexley
Inspection number	988270
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 3
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	18
Name of registered person	Falconwood Preschool Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP910987
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	02088543920

Falconwood Pre-school re-registered in 2014. It operates from a scout hut in Falconwood, near Welling in Kent. The group is open Monday to Friday, from 9.15am until 12.15pm, term time only. There are five members of staff, four of whom hold a childcare qualification at level 3. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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