

Ducklings Pre School Too !

Church Hall, Eastwoodbury Lane, Southend On Sea, SS2 6UH



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

28 September 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

- The manager and staff team are committed and passionate about their roles and responsibilities. They strive for continuous improvement and actively seek the views of others to support the self-evaluation process.
- Children make good progress as a result of interesting and well-planned learning opportunities. Consequently, children are challenged and stimulated in their learning.
- Staff assess children's progress regularly, in order to identify any gaps in their learning. They plan each child's next steps in learning using their observations and information from parents. As a result, children are well prepared for the next stages in their learning.
- There is a strong focus on promoting children's speaking and listening skills. Staff maximise every opportunity to reinforce children's vocabularies and conversation skills throughout their time at the setting.
- Staff have good relationships with parents. They encourage parents' involvement in the pre-school and keep them well informed about their children's care and learning. Parents speak highly of staff, the activities offered and the progress their children make.
- Staff use a calm and consistent approach to manage children's behaviour. They support children to find appropriate solutions when minor disagreements occur.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The staff team occasionally misses opportunities to further support children's early writing skills during some play activities.
- Opportunities for children to explore a greater range of natural objects are not yet maximised.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with even more learning opportunities to support their early writing skills
- provide children with opportunities to explore a greater range of natural resources.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching and learning in the indoor and outdoor learning environment.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector checked the evidence of staff suitability and qualifications.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, staff and parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Tina Mason

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff understand and implement rigorous policies to keep children safe. They are vigilant in their supervision of children and take steps to minimise potential dangers to children and staff. The manager and staff work well as a team. All of the staff team holds early years qualifications and has many years of experience looking after children. This has a positive impact on the quality of teaching overall. Staff have regular meetings with the manager and are encouraged to attend further training to enhance their practice. There are effective systems in place to track children's ongoing development. The manager regularly analyses this information to ensure all children make good progress in their learning. Staff invite parents into the setting to discuss their children's progress and parents' positive contributions to children's assessments support learning at home. Partnerships with external agencies and schools are strong. Children receive very good support which contributes to meeting their care needs successfully and improving outcomes.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a very good understanding of how children learn through play and are skilful in their interactions with them. Children are engaged in purposeful conversations as staff ask questions to extend their vocabularies. For example, the children are currently learning about the life cycle of a caterpillar to support their understanding of how things change over time and develop their care and concern for living things. The children show enthusiasm and excitement when they are asked to recall and describe the changes they see, using new words, such as, chrysalis. Their early mathematical skills are also promoted. Staff encourage children to measure, compare and count as they play with the 'measuring worms'. Children develop their creative skills well. For example, they have great fun making marks on paper using marbles and paint.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's emotional well-being is successfully promoted because staff create a friendly, welcoming and stimulating environment. The key-person system is effective and children's individual needs are well known by all staff. Children form positive relationships with staff, contributing to them being happy, settled and content. Staff continually provide children with praise and encouragement which help them to feel valued and respected. Children develop their physical skills as staff encourage them to explore, investigate and be active in the outdoor play areas. All care routines are agreed with parents and a positive approach to healthy practices is maintained.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are encouraged to make choices and decisions throughout their play. They are confident and motivated learners. Children have many opportunities to use their imagination and to develop their problem-solving skills. Children learn to recognise and write their own names, which helps to prepare them for the next stage in their learning and eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY484055
Local authority	Southend on Sea
Inspection number	1000699
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	26
Number of children on roll	15
Name of registered person	Marina Ann Van-Roon
Registered person unique reference number	RP513348
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07876562429

Ducklings Pre School Too ! was registered in 2014. The pre-school employs three members of childcare staff, all of whom have appropriate childcare qualifications ranging from level 2 to level 5. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during school term times. Sessions are from 9am until midday on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. Sessions on Wednesdays and Thursdays are from 9am until 3pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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