

Thurston Pre-School

Church Road, Thurston, BURY ST. EDMUNDS, Suffolk, IP31 3RU



Inspection date	29 September 2016
Previous inspection date	17 September 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 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

- Since the last inspection, the managerial team has continued to make further changes to practice. They ensure all staff keep up to date with current guidance and have made several improvements that directly strengthen the outcomes for children and their families.
- All staff are skilful at helping children develop secure foundations for their future learning. They empower children to have strong communication, language and social skills.
- Children settle very quickly at the pre-school due to the nurturing and highly adaptive care that all staff adopt. Children are confident learners and demonstrate that they feel secure.
- Children behave very well. They show compassion for others and listen and respond well to the boundaries that have been established, such as being kind and sharing with each other.
- Staff, parents and other professionals all work extremely closely together to ensure continuity of care for each child. Parents speak very highly of the staff and are very pleased with the progress in their children's learning since attending the pre-school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some activities do not offer highly challenging experiences to enable children to make better than good progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor the quality of teaching and learning systematically to develop practice further and ensure that activities provide highly challenging experiences for all children, in order for them to make rapid progress in their learning.

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 manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Emily Sturgis

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The committee and management show a commitment to the ongoing development of the pre-school and fully support staff to extend their skills and knowledge further. The long-standing staff team works effectively together to maintain high standards of care for each child. Safeguarding is effective. Staff ensure that children are in a safe environment and are vigilant about keeping up to date with local authority safeguarding procedures. The setting works very closely with local schools to establish strategies that fully support children's emotional well-being when they move on to school. The pre-school uses early years pupil premium funding well to tailor activities to children's individual interests and needs and extend children's learning. All staff are reflective about practice. Parents' and children's views are also taken into consideration when identifying future improvements.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff demonstrate a very good understanding of their key children. They monitor their progress closely and establish next steps in learning to ensure that all children make good progress throughout all areas of learning. Staff place a large focus on extending children's communication skills. They model language and encourage children to openly communicate at every opportunity. Staff plan activities that are based around children's interests. Activities inspire children to explore their imagination. Children enjoy creating different role-play scenarios, such as a doctor's surgery. Children talk about how doctors help to keep you healthy and make you feel better. All staff have high expectations for children's achievements and regularly share information with parents, helping them to extend children's learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff embrace children's individuality and encourage them to talk about things that are important to them. Children enjoy sharing their achievements and show high levels of self-esteem. Children's independence is encouraged throughout practice and they enjoy carrying out tasks. Children listen well to instructions and are familiar with the pre-school's rules that encourage positive behaviour. Children learn about how to keep themselves safe, adopting a healthy lifestyle and being careful when climbing on the bigger equipment outside. Children have formed secure relationships with all members of staff and settle quickly when they first start.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are achieving well and are making good progress in their learning. They are very well prepared for the move on to school and are excited for the next stage in their education. Children have access to many different mark-making opportunities. For example, they enjoy splashing in the water outside and explore the patterns their footprints make on the pavement. Children show good social skills and an enthusiasm for learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY442936
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	1060017
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 - 11
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	76
Name of registered person	Thurston Pre-School Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP911266
Date of previous inspection	17 September 2012
Telephone number	07743 134 734

Thurston Pre-School was registered in 2012 and employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 2 to level 4. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 8.50am until 3.20pm, with an additional option for before- and after-school care. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It receives early years pupil premium funding.

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