

Doddinghurst Community Pre-school



Doddinghurst Village Hall, Church Lane, Doddinghurst, BRENTWOOD, Essex, CM15 0NJ

Inspection date	13 October 2016
Previous inspection date	18 November 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 show a drive and commitment to making improvements that benefit children's care and learning. Since the last inspection, they have been very receptive to suggestions from local authority advisers and have worked hard to improve the key-person system and raise the quality of teaching.
- Children make good progress as they engage in purposeful learning experiences, both indoors and outside. Staff motivate and enthuse children effectively and it is evident that children enjoy their learning.
- Staff are sensitive to children's individual needs and interests. They work closely with parents when children first attend to ensure they quickly settle.
- Staff have developed strong relationships with the local schools and they help children make a successful move on to their next stage of learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the most of every opportunity to encourage the most able children to extend their creativity and use more of their own ideas.
- The routine at lunchtime is not always efficiently organised and this occasionally means that some children become restless and distracted.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on opportunities for the most able children to extend their ideas and creativity
- review and adapt the organisation of the lunchtime routine and enhance opportunities for children to develop their confidence and manage their feelings.

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 carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff and children.
- The inspector viewed a sample of the children's development records.
- The inspector reviewed evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the staff, self-evaluation, risk assessment and policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Patricia Champion

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff and committee members complete the appropriate vetting checks. Staff carefully monitor children's welfare and behaviour. They know how to follow local safeguarding procedures if they have concerns about a child. The premises are safe and secure, and staff are aware of their responsibilities to supervise children. Since the last inspection, the manager and staff have developed a more deeply reflective and evaluative approach to their practice. They continually look for ways they can develop the pre-school. Staff receive good professional support. They are able to access a good range of training and improve on the level of their qualifications. This helps to develop their knowledge and skills, and improve the quality of teaching to have a positive impact on children's learning. Parents share very positive views about the pre-school. They say communication is good and staff regularly seek information about their children's interests and learning at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They make effective use of discussions and useful questions when they play alongside children. This encourages children to think and then give interesting responses as they explain what they are doing. Children learn to listen attentively as they follow stories and enjoy looking at books for pleasure. Staff effectively observe and monitor children's development so they can quickly identify any gaps in their learning. Planning and assessments are focused on each child's needs, and are effectively shared with parents. The manager has a very good overview of the progress of each individual child, and the different groups of children. Effective support is put in place for children in receipt of early years pupil premium funding.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are very caring and build warm relationships with the children. Key persons form a good understanding of children's individual personalities and needs. Children's understanding of healthy lifestyles is well supported. They take part in healthy cooking activities and have many opportunities to exercise in the fresh air. Overall, children behave well. Staff set a good example and children learn about good manners and treating others with warmth and kindness. Children build their knowledge of the wider world and their understanding of people, families, languages and traditions. They use a range of resources and books with positive images of diversity.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, are making good progress from their starting points. They are eager to take part in activities. They often concentrate well and try hard, while responding to the staff's praise and encouragement. Children are developing their independence skills. For example, they prepare fruit for snacks and wash up their own plates and cups. Children begin to link letters with sounds and recognise their names in print. They compare sizes, identify shapes and make links between numerals and the quantity of items they can count. Children effectively develop the skills they need in readiness for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	508826
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1033469
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	44
Name of registered person	Doddinghurst Community Pre-school Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP519079
Date of previous inspection	18 November 2015
Telephone number	07523291553

Doddinghurst Community Pre-school was registered in 1996 and is run by a committee. The pre-school employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, four staff hold an early years qualification at level 3 and three staff hold a qualification at level 2. The pre-school is open on Monday to Friday, during school term times. Sessions are from 9am until 1pm on Monday, and from 9am until 3pm on Tuesday, Wednesday Thursday and Friday. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports children who speak English as an additional language.

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