

Pipit Pre-School

27 Finch Road, Eastney, Portsmouth, Hampshire. PO4 9LT



Inspection date

3 November 2016

Previous inspection date

26 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 pre-school provides a very homely and welcoming environment. Children settle quickly and form very close relationships with the staff.
- The quality of teaching is good. Children get off to a good start in their learning and develop some important skills which help them become ready for moving on to school.
- The leadership of the pre-school is good. The new supervisor has made many positive changes since the last inspection. She makes sure staff now monitor children's development more closely. This means any child who needs extra help with their learning gets the right support quickly.
- Good use is made of the outside area to extend children's learning and play.
- Staff are very vigilant about keeping children safe. They check the premises carefully each day and protect children from any potential hazards.
- Staff use every opportunity to help parents become fully involved in their children's learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Procedures for monitoring the quality of practice are not yet precise enough to raise standards to an outstanding level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make even better use of all opportunities for evaluation and monitoring practice to improve standards to an outstanding level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning during activities taking place inside and outside.
- The inspector talked to staff about how they plan for children's learning and what things they do to keep children safe.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the pre-school manager to assess how well senior staff monitor the quality of teaching.
- The inspector talked to a small number of parents who were present in the pre-school during the inspection and took their views into account.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation including: staff training and qualification certificates, records of children's learning, safeguarding logs, the pre-school's self-evaluation report and development plan.

Inspector

Jo Caswell, Her Majesty's Inspector

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The pre-school supervisor recognises the individual skills and expertise of each member of her staff and actively encourages them to continue their training through professional development. Closer monitoring of the quality of practice has improved the teaching to a consistently good level. Staff have worked hard to gather more information from parents about what children know and can do when they first start. Good systems are in place to ensure parents working away from home are kept fully informed of their children's progress. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of their responsibilities to protect children from circumstances which may put them at risk of harm. They complete relevant training and help parents understand the importance of teaching children how to use the internet and social media safely at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have worked hard to support and encourage boys to become more interested in developing their writing and literacy skills. For example, a group of boys delighted in finding the 'hidden books' in the play house outside. They then spent a long time re-telling the stories to one another in an animated way, clearly reflecting the ways they have heard adults narrate the story. Every available opportunity is used to encourage boys to practise writing in their play. Support for children who need extra help with their learning is good. Funding is used well to target areas where some children need the most help. For example, extra garden resources were recently purchased as staff recognised that some children prefer to learn outside and other children have limited opportunities for outdoor play at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff use every available opportunity to help children practise looking after their own needs. For example, children who think they cannot put their coats on by themselves are gently encouraged to manage this successfully. Children behave very well as staff are very positive role models. They show kindness and respect to children and these traits are reflected in children's own behaviour and actions. For example, at snack time, one child told another child he would reserve her seat while she went to wash her hands. When she returned to the table and struggled to pull her chair in, he offered to do it for her. Staff highly value the unique qualities of every child and family.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop a keen interest in learning and make good progress from their starting points. Those who need extra help, quickly catch up with their peers. Children who start pre-school with limited language progress quickly from using picture cards to communicate their needs to using spoken language. Strong links with other agencies mean professionals work closely together to target children's priority learning needs. This enables children to make better than expected progress. The pre-school environment enables children to be inquisitive to find things out and to be curious to develop new skills. As a result, children move on to school confident and ready for future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY253045
Local authority	Portsmouth
Inspection number	1037411
Type of provision	Full-time 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	14
Number of children on roll	12
Name of registered person	Naval Under Fives (Eastern Area) Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP519689
Date of previous inspection	26 November 2015
Telephone number	07825 842728

Pipit Pre-School is one of seven pre-schools managed by Portsmouth Naval Under Fives. It registered in 2003 and operates in the Eastney area of Portsmouth. The pre-school is open each weekday during school term times from 9.15am to 3.15pm. Funding is accepted to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school employs five staff; all of whom hold relevant early years qualifications. One staff member holds qualified teacher status.

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