

Willow Tree Pre-School (Ifield West)

Ifield West Community Centre, Dobbins Place, Ifield West, Crawley, West Sussex,
RH11 0PL



Inspection date	20 March 2017
Previous inspection date	5 February 2015

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

- Children are happy and confidently explore the exciting learning opportunities. Staff encourage children's independence and arrange the environment to enable children to make their own decisions about where they learn.
- Partnerships with parents and external agencies are good. For example, staff share information about children's learning and use information from other professionals to provide further support.
- The quality of self-evaluation is good. The manager and staff work together to identify ways to improve their practice and provision. For example, staff have received training on outdoor learning for boys. This has had a positive impact on their development.
- The manager reviews children's progress well. She has systems in place to collate information and identify gaps in learning. All children, including those with special education needs and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language make good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff miss opportunities to develop children's early mathematical and literacy skills during activities and play.
- Staff do not consistently seek alternative ways to increase some children's awareness of the rules of the setting.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to learn about words, numbers and print during play
- consider ways to further extend children's knowledge and understanding of the setting's rules so that all children respond positively.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and staff interactions with children indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to the manager, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector discussed staff suitability, recruitment and safeguarding procedures with the manager.
- The inspector took part in a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled written feedback from parents to gain their views.

Inspector

Hannah Barter

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a secure understanding of their responsibilities to keep children safe and a confident knowledge of the signs that may indicate a child is at risk. The manager places high regard on safeguarding training and regularly tests and refreshes staff knowledge. Recruitment and induction procedures are thorough. The manager has systems in place to ensure the ongoing suitability of staff. For example, staff receive regular supervision sessions. Staff benefit from a consistent amount of training to help develop their practice and understanding of child development. For example, staff have introduced resources and visual aids to support children who speak English as an additional language.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Observation and assessment of children's learning is effective. Staff use the information to identify challenging next steps and develop children's interests. For example, staff planned creative activities which encouraged children to make marks in paint and foam with various utensils. Staff provide good support towards children's communication and language development. For example, staff ask children questions about what they are doing and encourage them to describe. Staff make good use of the outdoor area to support those children who prefer to learn outside. For example, children enjoyed using tools to fix items in the garden. Other children enjoyed making marks in the sand and using scoops to transport items to other areas of the outdoor area.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff have secure relationships with children. Staff know children well and have a good understanding of their individual needs. Children enjoy including staff in their play. For example, children laughed with staff as they took part in a music and movement session. Staff praise children constantly, which helps further develop children's confidence and self-esteem. Overall, children behave well. They are polite and show care and respect towards others. For example, children have regular opportunities to learn about different cultures and religions and take part in activities to help develop their knowledge. Children have constant opportunities to gain fresh air and develop their physical skills. For example, they make good use of play parks and go for walks in the local area.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in preparation for moving to school. Children are independent and learn to take responsibility for themselves. For example, children help tidy away resources, wash their hands and get ready to go outside. Children have a good understanding of how to keep themselves safe. For example, they use scissors and knives correctly and understand that they must take turns on the climbing equipment.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY434410
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1085950
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	32
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	Willow Tree Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP530453
Date of previous inspection	5 February 2015
Telephone number	01293 270107

Willow Tree Pre-school registered in 2011. It operates from the community centre in Ifield, West Crawley in West Sussex. The setting receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The setting is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8.30am to 2.30pm during term time only. The setting has four staff, three of whom hold an early years qualification. The manager has early years professional status.

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