

Merry-Go-Round

St James Church Hall, Church Street, Weybridge, Surrey, KT13 8DE



Inspection date	23 March 2017
Previous inspection date	22 April 2016

	This inspection:	Good	2
The quality and standards of the early years provision			
	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

- Staff have worked hard to make improvements since the last inspection. As a result, the quality of provision overall is now good. Teaching has improved and children's behaviour is managed well.
- Children are very happy at pre-school. Parents report how well their children learn and how much they appreciate the caring nature of the staff.
- Good support is in place for children who require extra support with their learning, especially those who are learning to speak English as an additional language.
- Children's safety and welfare is given high priority. Staff supervise children well and are attentive towards their needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Procedures for monitoring how well all children learn are still in the early stages of development. Therefore, it is too soon to be sure that all groups of children, especially boys, make good or better progress.
- Systems for reviewing the quality of practice are not yet robust enough to improve 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 more use of cohort tracking to demonstrate more clearly how different groups of children, especially boys, make progress over time
- use reflection, evaluation and monitoring systems even more effectively to improve provision to an outstanding level overall.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities taking place both inside and outside.
- The inspector talked to staff at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with one of the setting's owners.
- The inspector held a meeting with the two owners to discuss how the setting is run and how legal requirements are met.
- The inspector gained the views of a small number of parents and carers during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of records and documentation, such as the setting's self-evaluation report, children's learning journals, safeguarding files and staff information.

Inspector

Jo Caswell, Her Majesty's Inspector

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The two co-owners are dedicated to the children and have clear aspirations to provide a very high quality pre-school. They lead a committed and professional team of staff and roles and responsibilities are clearly understood. Much more focus is now given towards staff development and supervision meetings. Annual appraisals are now carried out to review staff practice. Funding is used well to support children who need extra help with their learning. For example, staff have completed specialist training on supporting children's speaking and listening skills. Safeguarding is effective. Staff work closely with other agencies who may be involved in supporting individual families. They know the importance of keeping children safe and follow up any unexpected absences from pre-school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is good because staff make learning fun for children. Good use of practical activities mean children benefit from purposeful, well-planned play. For example, children develop their speaking and listening skills well as they use real resources to re-tell the story of 'The Three Little Pigs'. They enjoy playing with straw, sticks and bricks and clearly understand the sequence of the story. Staff deployment is good during the session. Staff work with children on an individual basis or in small groups. They have a good understanding of every child's different interests and abilities and nurture these well. For example, some children have exceptionally well-developed counting and mathematical skills for their age. Staff extend this well by offering these children opportunities to make calculations and become familiar with numbers up to 100.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

There is a very relaxed, nurturing environment within the pre-school. Children behave well and make friends easily. They form close attachments with the staff who look after them and approach them confidently for cuddles and reassurance. Quieter and younger children receive good amounts of support and help to engage with the older and more confident children. There are good opportunities for children to be physically active and to play and learn outside. For example, some children take part in weekly football and tennis lessons and there is daily access to a designated garden area for active outside play. Children thoroughly enjoy these activities and successfully develop their skills in ball control and moving in a variety of ways.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop into confident, enthusiastic learners. They gain good levels of independence and become increasingly able to take care of their own needs. They show interest in all activities and gain a strong sense of pride in their achievements. Larger group times are managed well and children listen attentively. They follow instructions well and are very familiar with the pre-school's routine. These skills support children's learning well and provide good preparation for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY220882
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	1073842
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	40
Number of children on roll	34
Name of registered person	Merry Go Round Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP520979
Date of previous inspection	22 April 2016
Telephone number	07990 743537

Merry-Go-Round registered in 2002. It is a privately owned pre-school in Weybridge, Surrey. The pre-school is open each weekday from 9.15am to 12.30pm during term time only. There are eight members of staff, five of whom hold an early years qualification. Funding is accepted for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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