

Brixworth Centre Pre-School

Church Street, Brixworth, Northamptonshire, NN6 9BZ



Inspection date

30 March 2017

Previous inspection date

4 March 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children thoroughly enjoy the time they spend in this superb pre-school. They immediately settle and play in the excellently planned and highly engaging environment.
- The pre-school is extremely well managed by a highly qualified and extremely experienced team. Staff strive to constantly improve their excellent knowledge by attending training and this has a very positive effect on the overall quality of practice.
- Staff have an excellent understanding of how to protect children. They supervise children extremely effectively to support their play and maintain their safety.
- Excellent partnerships with parents have been developed. They are highly engaged in their children's learning and development.
- Staff expertly plan a very wide range of extremely interesting and imaginative activities that is based on children's individual learning needs. The quality of teaching is exceptional. This ensures that children make excellent progress in their learning and development and are very well prepared for school.
- Children make very secure attachments to extremely warm and affectionate staff. This ensures that they feel emotionally secure and very confident to play and explore.
- Staff use the outdoor area superbly. Children particularly enjoy playing in the mud kitchen and using a wide variety of materials to build.
- Staff are highly skilled in extending children's learning through excellent questioning. As a result, children are able to think critically and their learning is constantly being extended.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to extend the range of opportunities to enable children to make independent choices and decisions about their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor play areas and the outdoor learning environment. He conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager of the pre-school. He spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection when appropriate.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working within the pre-school, and a range of other documentation. He also discussed self-evaluation.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment and planning documentation, risk assessments and safety records.

Inspector
Ben Hartley

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The superb management team is extremely knowledgeable and vastly experienced. The pre-school is managed superbly and as a result, the overall quality of the practice is extremely high. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Robust checks are in place to ensure the suitability of all staff. Staff have a very secure knowledge of safeguarding and how to protect children. Staff show a high level of commitment to developing their knowledge and improving their practice even further. The manager uses this expertise to support all staff and make constant refinements to the superb practice. For example, staff are extending the opportunities given to children to enable them to become even more independent in their play. The manager has an excellent knowledge of the skills and strengths of all her staff and uses observations of each other's practice to support staff. Parents are full of praise for the pre-school; they are extremely complimentary.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The overall quality of teaching is exceptional. Staff are highly skilled in supporting children's play. They allow them opportunities to explore independently and communicate with them very skilfully. Children enjoy real experiences that relate to their own lives. They demonstrate their ability to fully engage in learning for sustained periods of time. Staff expertly plan an extremely wide range of activities, based on children's interests and the next steps in their development. Children particularly enjoy mixing colours in water, anticipating what happens when certain colours are mixed, and exploring what effect adding items, such as paint, might have. Staff have an excellent understanding of children's current stage of development and how their learning can be taken forward even further. Staff use group times very effectively to teach children some early sounds and phonics. This helps increase their readiness for school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The learning environment is extremely inviting to children. This ensures that they settle into their chosen play activities very quickly. Staff are extremely caring and responsive to children's needs. They have developed excellent relationships with children and their families. Children have free access to the very good outdoor area. This provides children with opportunities to exercise throughout the day. Children are provided with a range of healthy snacks that they are encouraged to access independently. Staff talk to children about the importance of healthy eating and this encourages them to learn about maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Children play collaboratively and make close friends.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make exceptional progress in their learning and development. They demonstrate that they are highly engaged in their learning and very eager to learn more. They acquire key skills that mean they are extremely well prepared for school. Staff have developed excellent relationships with the local school and provide children with opportunities to visit their new classroom. This helps prepare children emotionally for the move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	220216
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1087668
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	26
Number of children on roll	46
Name of registered person	Brixworth Centre Pre School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP901841
Date of previous inspection	4 March 2014
Telephone number	07791 906 305

Brixworth Centre Pre-School was registered in 1984. The pre-school employs 11 members of childcare staff, nine of whom hold appropriate qualifications at level 2 or above. Four staff have qualifications at level 6, including three with qualified teacher status. The pre-school is open from 9.15am to 3.15pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday and from 9.15am until 12.15pm on Wednesday and Friday, during term time only. The pre-school also offers the option of a lunch club.

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