Elsworth Pre-School



Elsworth Primary School, Broad End, Elsworth, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, CB23 4JD

Inspection date	25 April 2017
Previous inspection date	15 January 2015

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
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 requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The provider does not have a secure understanding of the requirements of the early years foundation stage. Ofsted has not been provided with relevant information about all committee members to enable the full assessment process to be carried out to check the suitability of these individuals.
- Staff have not yet achieved highly effective partnerships with providers of all other settings that children attend to provide excellent continuity of learning.
- Staff do not always carefully consider the very best location to obtain children's full attention and participation when carrying out planned activities.

It has the following strengths

- The effective key-person system enables the well-qualified staff team to form secure and trusting relationships with children and their family. Children demonstrate that they are very happy and confident as they excitedly arrive at pre-school.
- Children enjoy a wealth of interesting learning activities that actively promotes their sensory and physical skills. For example, they use their fingers and small tools to make marks in dry semolina and custard.
- Staff develop strong relationships with parents and involve them in every aspect of their children's learning. There is an effective two-way flow of information to aid children's care and learning. Parents are invited to many events, such as stay-and-play sessions. They speak highly of the pre-school and describe staff as amazing.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage the provider must:

Due Date

provide Ofsted with relevant information to enable the full 02/05/2017 assessment process of all committee members to be completed.

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

- strengthen the partnerships with all other early years providers where children attend, to support their continuity of learning
- make the most of all available areas when carrying out planned activities, in order to fully engage children's attention and participation.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning. She accompanied the children and staff on a visit to the Reception class at the on-site school.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the designated lead for safeguarding children, manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff and committee members.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views in addition to their written feedback.

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Lorraine Pike

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The provider has not made arrangements to provide Ofsted with the relevant information to enable them to complete the full assessment process for some committee members. However, there is minimal impact on children. This is because Disclosure and Barring Service checks have been carried out on these individuals. They do not have unsupervised contact with children and are not responsible for the recruitment of staff in the pre-school. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff demonstrate a good understanding of how to identify any children who may be at risk of harm. They know the action to take if they have concerns about a child's welfare. Clear arrangements for staff supervision and opportunities for regular training contribute to promoting good outcomes for all children. The manager thoroughly monitors children's progress and continuously evaluates and reflects on practice. Partnership working with other providers is not yet highly effective.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

All children demonstrate a positive attitude towards learning in this welcoming nursery. They become deeply absorbed in their chosen play. For example, they work out the most effective tools to use to scoop up soil and transport it to the mud kitchen. Children positively respond to staff's use of questioning to extend the communication and language skills. This motivates them to use complex sentences to talk about previous experiences and discuss where the golden gate bridge is located. Children who speak English as an additional language are well supported by staff. One way they do this is to use key words in children's home language in their play. Children thoroughly enjoy joining in with action songs that introduce them to mathematical ideas, such as subtraction. They use technological equipment to complete simple programs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Highly successful arrangements are in place to help children to swiftly settle as they begin attending pre-school. Children also benefit from the regular visits to the on-site school Reception class. Older children and staff act as very positive role models. Children demonstrate a good understanding of the importance of following a good hygiene routine. They develop good physical skills. For example, they learn to balance and jump onto textured disks and pedal tricycles at speed.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress in relation to their starting points, including those who speak English as an additional language. Children independently manage their own personal needs. They are beginning to link letters to sounds, recognise and write their own name. These are some of the skills that help to prepare children for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number 221776

Local authority Cambridgeshire

Inspection number 1090086

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register

Age range of children 2 - 4

Total number of places 32

Number of children on roll 32

Name of registered person Elsworth Pre-School Committee

Registered person unique

reference number

RP517131

Date of previous inspection 15 January 2015

Telephone number 07951 532738

Elsworth Pre-School first opened in 1976 and is run by a voluntary committee. It operates from a mobile building in the grounds of Elsworth Church of England Primary School. The pre-school employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The pre-school opens from 8.55am until 2.55pm, Monday to Thursday, and 8.55am until 11.55am on Fridays, during term time only. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports children who speak English as an additional language.

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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