

Sunflowers Pre-School

The Manor Primary School, Ruskin Avenue, MELKSHAM, Wiltshire, SN12 7NG



Inspection date	27 April 2017
Previous inspection date	15 April 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

- The management team ensures staff have a good understanding of how to keep children safe. It knows the signs and symptoms that indicate that a child may be at risk of harm. It knows what to do if it is worried about a child in its care.
- Children are happy and settled as they explore with their peers. They form strong attachments with their key persons, supporting their emotional development well.
- Staff actively encourage children to do simple tasks for themselves, such as putting on their own coats. This successfully helps to support children's independence skills.
- Children, including those who have special educational needs, make good progress from their starting points. Staff work closely with outside professionals to offer support.
- Staff manage children's behaviour well. Children learn to follow instructions, share, take turns and play harmoniously together. Their behaviour is good.
- Children have good opportunities to learn about being healthy. For example, they take part in a range of activities which helps them develop a positive attitude towards healthy foods, such as growing and caring for vegetables in the pre-school garden.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently organise large group times as well as possible. At times, some children become restless and lose interest.
- Staff miss opportunities to expand on children's developing interest in information and communication technology, to support further their developing skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the planning and organisation of group activities, so that they fully engage and challenge all children
- develop resources and activities available to children, to extend their information and communication technology skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector toured the premises and looked at available resources.
- The inspector spoke to the manager, staff, parents and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed staff's interaction with the children, inside and outside.

Inspector

Tracey Cook

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager has a good understanding of how children develop. She uses effective systems to support and monitor staff. For example, staff receive regular supervision meetings as well as ongoing training to raise teaching skills further. Safeguarding is effective. The manager attends regular child protection training to ensure her knowledge and understanding is up to date. The manager ensures most staff have first-aid training and deploys them effectively across the rooms and outdoor areas to help keep children safe. The manager involves staff well to continuously evaluate practice, and includes parents' views, to make changes that benefit children's experiences.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The manager effectively oversees children's development. For instance, she has developed a clear system to monitor individual and groups of children's progress. Staff use this effectively to identify and address gaps in learning to meet the needs of each child. Staff have high expectations of children and plan interesting activities. This helps all children, including those who receive additional funding, to make good progress from their starting points. Children develop good mathematical skills as they learn to recognise numbers. For example, they understand that two and seven is 27. Staff are enthusiastic and interact well with children. For example, they supported them effectively to think critically as they constructed ramps for the toy cars. Parent partnerships are good. Staff effectively share information with parents to support learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide a bright, colourful and well-resourced environment indoors and outdoors. They label areas with signs, letters and pictures which helps children to see and understand print and its meaning. Staff have a good understanding of children's individual needs and interests. For example, they select specific toys to help children settle quickly on arrival. Children are happy, confident and self-motivated in the calm, welcoming atmosphere. Staff set a good example for children to follow in their calm, caring manner. Staff constantly praise children, which helps support children's confidence and well-being. Staff show great skill in preparing children for their next stage of learning, including when they move into new rooms or on to school. They effectively ensure children feel secure and confident throughout the changes.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are happy, make friends and develop good social skills. Children develop good physical skills as they run, climb and catch balls while exploring the outdoor area. Children learn to manage risk well, as staff challenge them to have a go, and think about dangers and how to protect themselves.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY430899
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	1094961
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	38
Number of children on roll	66
Name of registered person	Broughton Road Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522415
Date of previous inspection	15 April 2015
Telephone number	07761444743

Sunflowers Pre-School registered in 2011. It operates from a school site near the centre of Melksham in Wiltshire. The pre-school is open five days a week during term time only, from 8.45am to 3.30pm. There are 14 members of staff working with the children. Of these, 11 have relevant childcare qualifications. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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