

Happy Hours Pre School

Medway Building, Polehampton Infant School, Hermitage Drive, Twyford, Reading, RG10 9HS



Inspection date

10 May 2017

Previous inspection date

23 March 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

- Staff use the provider's policies, procedures and risk assessments to effectively guide their practice for supporting children's health, safety and well-being.
- The manager leads her team well. She is dedicated and has high expectations of her staff. Staff use secure systems to assess children's starting points and ongoing development. All children make good progress.
- Staff offer interesting and challenging experiences for children indoors and outside. Children engage well in their learning and are eager to take part in their activities. They are confident to make choices about their play. They have warm bonds with staff.
- Children behave very well and thoroughly understand the routines of the day and staff expectations. They show good levels of independence. For example, children confidently set tables, counting plates and cups to match the number of children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently offer children enough time to think about and consider their responses to help support their problem-solving skills and enhance their learning further.
- Staff do not help children enough to build on their understanding of colours and how they change when mixed together.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give children the time they need to think about and express their ideas to help them develop their problem solving and thinking skills
- provide more opportunities to support children's interest in colours.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff interactions with children, during their play indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with children, parents and staff at appropriate times during the inspection. She met with the manager and provider.
- The inspector and manager completed two joint observations. They discussed how staff plan for children's learning and how staff are supported in their interaction skills.
- The inspector sampled the provider's documentation and children's records.
- The inspector met with the manager. They discussed how staff develop their skills and evaluate their practice.

Inspector

Aileen Finan

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager is highly supportive of how her staff use and develop their particular skills to improve practice. For example, staff take lead roles in extending learning opportunities outdoors that enable children to find out more about the wider world and natural environments. Staff implement specific training to support ways children make attachments. This has improved outcomes for all children, including those needing more support. Systems for recruitment, induction and supervision are managed well. Safeguarding is effective. Staff demonstrate good knowledge of how to protect children. Proactive staff evaluate the provision of care well and value the views of parents. The provider acts on these well, for example, by offering a range of opportunities for parents to meet their child's key person to discuss their child's progress and support their needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a clear understanding of children's interests. They demonstrate effective interaction skills, overall. For example, enthusiastic staff teach children rhymes and actions for a favourite rhyme. They encourage children's confidence in developing their physical skills, such as walking backwards or on tiptoes, skipping and jumping. Staff make focused, consistent observations and assessments. These are regularly monitored by the manager to ensure staff are making accurate plans for children's next steps. The manager and her staff skilfully provide support for children needing additional help and those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Partnerships with those also involved in children's care are well established.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are caring role models who promote children's awareness of others well. Staff encourage children to listen to each other and show respect during group activities. They encourage children to help their friends when counting or suggesting the weather of the day. Children take turns and share cooperatively. They show independence when carrying out responsibilities, such as helping to prepare snack. Staff offer children a broad range of outdoor play and learning opportunities. They remind children about health and safety routines, such as wiping their feet when returning indoors and washing their hands.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy their play. They learn a good range of skills. For example, children develop their imaginations outdoors, such as when playing at the mud kitchen. They 'cook' and explain to each other how long their cake needs to be in the oven. Children show good awareness of technology, as they skilfully load a program, follow instructions and operate controls. Children are emotionally secure. They confidently recall experiences from home and share these with staff. Children show readiness for the next stages of their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	148659
Local authority	Wokingham
Inspection number	1089754
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	24
Number of children on roll	50
Name of registered person	Happy Hours Preschool Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP901886
Date of previous inspection	23 March 2015
Telephone number	01189 349 088

Happy Hours Pre School registered in 1992. It opens Monday to Friday between 8.45am and 3.15pm, term time only. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free education for children aged two, three and four years. A total of 10 members of staff are employed to work with children. One staff member holds qualified teacher status and all other staff hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 3.

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