

Longthorpe Preschool

Longthorpe Primary School, Bradwell Road, PETERBOROUGH, PE3 9QW



Inspection date	11 May 2017
Previous inspection date	21 March 2013

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 flourish at this extremely welcoming, safe and highly stimulating pre-school. Children bond exceptionally well with their key person and form very secure emotional attachments. They show an excellent level of independence and confidence for their age, as a result of exemplary staff support, guidance and teaching skills.
- Teaching throughout the pre-school is exceptional and worthy of dissemination. Staff display a deep understanding of how children learn and are highly skilled at supporting and challenging children to consistently use their thinking skills to develop their own thoughts and ideas in their play.
- Children are very confident in their language abilities and describe and talk about their home life with ease. This includes children who speak English as an additional language, who through targeted support make rapid progress in understanding and speaking English in the pre-school. Children hear unusual words to add to their vocabulary, such as sphere and cylinder when looking at shapes.
- Parents are extremely positive about the pre-school. They relish the constant access they have to photographs and observations of their children so that they are always aware of their development and how to provide further support.
- The manager and her staff are extremely dedicated to providing high-quality childcare and learning experiences that will prepare children exceptionally well for starting school.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- embed the inspiring plans to further develop the garden area, evaluating the impact of this on children's learning experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Carly Mooney

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager has high expectations of her staff and is inspirational to them. Staff morale is very high, with an excellent team spirit and a drive to do the very best that they can for the children. Rigorous observations of staff practice help to monitor and support staff to continuously improve the quality of teaching. Staff enjoy training opportunities that help them to enhance care and learning experiences for children. The manager, staff and committee consistently reflect and evaluate all aspects of the pre-school. Exciting plans are in place to further develop learning opportunities in the already well thought out and stimulating garden. This particularly relates to more large physical play opportunities for more active children. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are very vigilant and knowledgeable about child protection matters and the local reporting procedures to follow if they have a concern. Recruitment of staff is very robust.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff skilfully tailor the experiences they provide to reflect children's individual interests and stages of development. Children demonstrate very good imaginative skills and thought processes. Staff skilfully take advantage of spontaneous play opportunities to extend and enhance children's learning. For example, children decide to hold a party. They pretend to write their invitations and food shopping lists, supported by staff to think about the letter sounds of the words they wish to write. They enjoy making party hats and chopping real food. Children are excited to watch chicks hatch from their shells as they learn about life cycles and how to care for living things. Staff work very closely with other settings and the local school to prepare children as they begin their primary education.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

There is a very strong emphasis on enhancing children's personal, social and emotional well-being. Children are very independent and confident. Behaviour is excellent. Friendships flourish as children learn to respect and tolerate each other's differences. They use resources, such as sand timers, as they understand the need to take turns and be patient. Through discussion and planned activities, children develop a superb knowledge and understanding of healthy eating and hygiene practices. Outdoor play opportunities are plentiful and children enjoy making up their own energetic games.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Assessment of children's learning is very precise and accurate. Rigorous monitoring of different groups of children, helps to ensure that all make the best possible progress from their individual starting points. Children are more than ready to start school. They count, recognise and write large numbers in activities and understand simple calculation. In large-group activities children show they can concentrate, listen and follow instructions.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY446426
Local authority	Peterborough
Inspection number	1065910
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	3 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	Longthorpe Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP517192
Date of previous inspection	21 March 2013
Telephone number	01733 265964

Longthorpe Preschool registered in 2012. The pre-school employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, seven hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 to 6, including qualified teaching status. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 3pm Monday to Thursday and from 9am until 12pm on a Friday. The pre-school provides funded early education for two, three and four-year-old children.

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