

Occold Pre-School

The Village Hall, Jubilee Field, Occold, Eye, Suffolk, IP23 7PL



Inspection date	25 May 2017
Previous inspection date	23 March 2015

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

- The pre-school manager is committed to provide children with an outstanding learning experience. The staff team is highly motivated and qualified and works exceptionally well together, creating a secure and safe learning environment for children.
- Children flourish and thrive in the highly stimulating and enabling environment. They benefit from the wealth of first-hand experiences, activities and resources. For example, children regularly visit the pre-school's allotment where they use tools to dig, plant and water. Children enthusiastically hunt for worms and 'treasure', and eagerly share their findings with staff and other children.
- Teaching is consistently of a very high quality throughout the pre-school. Staff have a superb knowledge of how children learn. Their support is highly effective in enabling all children to make rapid progress in their learning, in readiness for school.
- Children's welfare and personal development are central to everything staff do. Staff are highly skilled in providing an exceptionally warm and caring environment that supports each child and their family.
- Highly effective monitoring of the progress of all children means that staff swiftly identify areas where children need more support. Staff work extremely closely with parents and other professionals to ensure there is a consistent approach to meet children's individual needs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore further strategies to involve all parents even more actively in their child's learning and development.

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 small number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Karen Harris

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Leadership is inspirational. The pre-school manager is passionate about her role in early years. She has developed robust systems to monitor, supervise and mentor staff. Evaluation of teaching skills helps staff to complement each other's abilities, to the benefit of the children. Excellent attention to professional development enables staff to challenge and improve their knowledge, understanding and practice. Staff productively use newfound knowledge, gained through training, to further enhance and inform their teaching practice. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have a very secure knowledge of child protection procedures. They fully understand their role to protect children in their care. Partnerships with parents are extremely strong. Parents are delighted with the quality of care and education their children receive. Staff have highlighted that there is scope to explore more ways to involve all parents actively in their child's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff have an in-depth understanding of all children and are sensitive to their individual needs. They have very high expectations of what each child can achieve. Staff make meaningful contributions to support and extend children's learning superbly. Children thoroughly enjoy their time at the pre-school. They are active, motivated and inquisitive as they experience an exciting mix of adult-led activities and free play. Staff skilfully follow children's interest and ideas as they play. They support children's communication and language skills exceptionally well. For example, staff use sign language with all children and skilfully ask probing questions to encourage children's conversation.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff demonstrate an expert understanding that children's sense of security underpins their future learning. They place great emphasis on supporting children's early personal, social and emotional development. Staff are excellent role models. They encourage children to be polite and to use good manners. Children develop their independence. For example, they confidently collect a glass and help themselves to water to drink. Children show increasing levels of understanding about behaviour and the effects their actions have on others. Staff embed healthy lifestyles into every aspect of practice. Children develop superb physical skills as they explore the well-equipped outdoor areas.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Staff prepare children extremely well for the next stage in their learning. Children listen, follow instructions, and enthusiastically join in with whole-group activities. They have many opportunities to count and use mathematical language during their play. All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, and those who speak English as an additional language, make excellent progress in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	251583
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	1090295
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	21
Name of registered person	Occold Pre-School
Registered person unique reference number	RP523381
Date of previous inspection	23 March 2015
Telephone number	01379678397

Occold Pre-School registered in 1978. The pre-school employs five members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 8am until 3.30pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, and those who speak English as an additional language.

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