

The Old School House Pre School



Denmead Community Centre, School Lane, Denmead, Waterlooville, Hampshire, PO7 6LU

Inspection date

25 May 2017

Previous inspection date

20 May 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 work closely with other professionals, including other early years providers, to share information to help achieve a consistent approach to meeting children's individual needs and planning for future progress.
- Parents speak positively about the pre-school and feel that the staff are caring and very approachable.
- Children are happy and settled. They have positive relationships with each other and adults, which helps to develop a strong sense of security and emotional well-being.
- Staff have worked hard to overcome weaknesses identified at the last inspection. For example, children's early mathematical and creative development is now supported well during their play.
- Staff give clear messages to children about keeping clean and healthy. Children learn the importance of washing their hands, such as after messy play and before eating.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff miss opportunities to challenge children's thinking and extend their learning as fully as possible.
- At times, parents are not fully informed about their children's next steps for learning, to assist them in fully promoting and challenging their children's learning at home and at the setting.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of opportunities to extend activities and provide even more challenge for children in their learning
- develop further the information about children's next steps for learning so that all parents are more clearly informed and ready to challenge their children's learning fully at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff during activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and spoke with parents, staff and children.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including policies and procedures, and planning and assessment records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff and discussed the pre-school's improvement plan.

Inspector

Rachel Cornish

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager supports her staff. She provides regular meetings and training to update their professional knowledge. This has a positive impact on children's learning outcomes. For example, staff have focused strongly on promoting communication and language through the use of a simple sign language. The manager regularly reflects on practice. She accurately identifies and implements improvements that benefit the children, such as putting into practice friendship groups to help children move up to school. All staff complete safeguarding training and demonstrate a good understanding of the procedures to implement to help protect children from harm. Safeguarding is effective.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use their knowledge of the children well to plan activities that interest and motivate them. Children are eager to learn. For example, children playing with sand enjoy finding out what happens when they add water and talk about how the sand now feels. Accurate tracking of children's progress assists staff to know what children need to learn next and helps to ensure that any gaps in learning are quickly identified and addressed. The strong relationship between the children and staff supports children to quickly develop confidence. Even the very youngest children are able to stand up and count the number of children present. Children feel secure and settle quickly as they arrive.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff find out relevant details from parents about their children when they first start to attend, which enables them to help children to feel secure. Children behave well. Staff skilfully support children to share and take turns. The manager and staff have developed a strong and effective key-person system. They coordinate children's care and liaise with parents and other professionals. This is particularly positive at supporting children who have special educational needs. Children enjoy being active and have a wide variety of activities that help to develop their physical skills. For example, children climb through tunnels, play hopscotch and practise catching and bouncing balls to one another.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are self-assured, independent and are able to make choices about their play, inside or outside. They develop good investigative skills and enjoy experimenting, such as when digging for buried treasure in sand with different tools. They learn mathematical skills during daily routines, such as when counting how many spoonfuls of sand they need to fill different containers. Early literacy skills are developing well, with most children successfully identifying their own name card, such as on their pegs and trays. Children develop skills in readiness for school. They listen to one another and follow simple instructions, such as gathering together inside while waiting for lunch.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY363215
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	1093223
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	2 - 4
Total number of places	22
Number of children on roll	40
Name of registered person	Stephanie Boyland
Registered person unique reference number	RP908731
Date of previous inspection	20 May 2015
Telephone number	07933711279

The Old School House Pre School registered in 2007. It is situated in Denmead Community Centre in Denmead, Hampshire. The provider receives funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school operates from 8.30am to 3pm, Monday to Friday, during term times. The provider employs eight staff who all hold an early years qualification at level 3.

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