

Sherwood Pre-School

7 Nottingham Road, SOUTH CROYDON, Surrey, CR2 6LN



Inspection date

7 June 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 manager and her staff team are committed to their work. The manager evaluates staff practice and the provision well and successfully sets clear, realistic targets for improvements to help raise outcomes for all children.
- Staff are well experienced. They use their skills effectively to help support children's learning experiences to a good level. Children make good progress across most areas of learning.
- Staff are attentive to children's needs and help them form a strong attachment to their key person. They help children settle quickly and feel secure.
- The manager and staff build strong partnerships with parents and other professionals to help provide good consistency in children's care and learning. They provide tailored support for all children, including those who have special educational needs. All children make good progress.
- Staff ensure children have access to all areas of the pre-school and have good opportunities to be physically active.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff miss opportunities, particularly during adult-led activities, to help younger children develop a greater level of engagement to extend their learning.
- Staff do not help children fully to develop their understanding of shapes, numbers and counting to enhance their mathematical development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review arrangements for some adult-led activities, particularly to help younger children to engage more and to extend their learning even further
- extend children's knowledge and use of shapes, numbers and counting to enhance their mathematical learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed its impact on children's learning.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and deputy manager and held discussions with the rest of the staff team. She also spoke to children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as children's learning records and planning. She looked at policies and procedures, risk assessments, self-evaluation and checked evidence of staff qualifications and suitability.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Marvet Gayle

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager and staff have a strong understanding of their responsibility to keep children safe. They ensure that the safeguarding policy and procedures are thorough and are updated regularly to help underpin their clear knowledge. Staff are well supported and know how to identify children who might be at risk of harm. They know what to do should they have any concerns about the welfare of a child in their care. The environment is safe. Managers and staff are vigilant and they identify effectively any potential risks, which are addressed quickly, to help minimise possible hazards to the safety of children. The manager implements robust recruitment procedures to help ensure all staff are suitable to work with children. Safeguarding is effective. The management committee supports the manager well in her role and has clear expectations for the team. The manager monitors staff practice regularly to help identify any training needs and improve the quality of teaching to help children achieve good outcomes.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff gather information from parents about children's interests before they start, and they help children settle well. Staff's observations and assessments of children are used well, together with the information from parents, to help identify effective next steps in children's learning and help them make good progress. Staff help children to develop their vocabulary well. For example, they introduce children to words such as 'full', 'empty', 'bigger' and 'tall'. Staff provide good opportunities for children to explore textures, such as sand, rice and lentils, to extend their understanding of the world. They provide many opportunities for children to explore and develop their early writing skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide an interesting environment to encourage children to make independent choices. They are constantly close by and provide effective supervision to ensure children are safe. Staff help children learn to be polite, show respect for each other, learn to share, and form close friendships. They support children to understand people's similarities, differences and valuing others. Staff ensure children develop healthy eating habits and lifestyles. For example, they provide healthy snacks and meals daily and ensure children have opportunities to be active.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy their time at the pre-school. They are becoming confident to explore and make friends. Older children develop their ability to listen, understand and follow simple instructions. For example, they listen to staff, wait patiently and take turns when building a tower with bricks. Children develop good imaginations and self-help skills. All children make good progress for the future and starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY486026
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	1010194
Type of provision	Full-time 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	34
Number of children on roll	64
Name of registered person	Mulberry Pre-School at Howard
Registered person unique reference number	RP911452
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	02084054193

Sherwood Pre-School registered in 2015. The pre-school is located in the grounds of Howard Primary School, South Croydon, in the London Borough of Croydon. The pre-school operates Monday to Friday from 9am to midday and 12.45pm to 3.45pm. There is also a lunch club from midday until 12.45pm. The out-of-school care facilities operate between 8am and 9am and 3.30pm and 6pm each weekday, for 38 weeks of the year, excluding public holidays. The pre-school employs 14 staff who work directly with the children. The majority of staff are qualified at level 3 and level 2. The nursery offers funded places for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2017

