

Walter Powell Pre School

The Mobile Classroom, c/o Somerfords Walter Powell School, Dauntsey Road, Great Somerford, Wiltshire, SN15 5HS



Inspection date

8 June 2017

Previous inspection date

13 October 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- Children are well settled and clearly enjoy their time at the pre-school. Staff are caring and sensitively build strong bonds with children, helping them to develop confidence and self-assurance.
- Staff support children's language development very well. For example, they talk with younger children during play and help to extend vocabulary, and encourage older children to take part in group conversations.
- Staff regularly observe children and assess their development. The manager and staff monitor the development of individual children and quickly identify any gaps in learning. All children make good progress from their individual starting points.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Staff encourage parents to be involved in their children's development. For example, they provide parents with regular opportunities to share information about children's interests at home.
- The pre-school has very good links with other settings and the local schools to support children well as they move on in their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the best use of opportunities to help younger children to develop mathematical skills.
- Staff occasionally miss opportunities to help older children become even more independent in their physical skills and in managing their personal needs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for younger children to develop their early mathematical skills
- provide more opportunities for older children to extend their physical skills and consolidate managing their personal needs.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the staff's interactions with children and spoke to staff and children during activities.
- The inspector discussed activities and children's learning with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including records relating to children and the pre-school's safeguarding procedures, and held discussions with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection.

Inspector

Judith Harris

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand the current procedures and their responsibility to protect children. They know what would concern them about children's welfare and know the procedures to follow. The manager and staff make good use of daily opportunities to reflect on their practice and make plans for continuous improvements. Staff take part in regular team meetings and continue to study for higher qualifications to help support their development. Staff have completed training to enable them to better support children who have special educational needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use the wide range of information they gather effectively to ensure they know the children very well. This supports them to successfully plan a range of activities and experiences to strengthen the next steps in their learning. Children are well supported by staff, who use interactions to help them learn through their own interests. For example, younger children thoroughly enjoy the pretend play, such as taking the animals to the vet. Staff play alongside children, helping them develop their imaginative game and supporting them to use the medical tools with skill. Older children have lots of opportunities to develop their problem-solving skills. For example, staff encourage them to work out how to mix different paints to make the colours they require for their creations.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children move freely in the play area choosing what to play with, helping them to be independent in their play. They are comfortable and confident in the setting, and staff use praise to help develop their self-esteem. For example, children enjoy making models using a wide range of art and craft resources. Staff encourage them to complete the tasks and celebrate their achievements. Staff provide daily opportunities for outdoor play. For example, children delight in the large-group activity in the school playground and playing on the bicycles and scooters. Children behave very well. They show consideration to others and confidently learn to share and take turns.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are happy and well engaged in purposeful play throughout the session. Older children are effectively developing skills for the next stage in their learning. For example, staff support them to change into their PE kits for the physical play session. All children gain good early literacy skills, such as confidently recognising the sounds and letters of their names, and they enjoy practising early writing skills at different activities. Children are very good listeners and able communicators. For example, in group sessions, they take turns and contribute well to discussions.

Setting details

Unique reference number	199470
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	1076574
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	16
Name of registered person	The Walter Powell Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP901951
Date of previous inspection	13 October 2016
Telephone number	07931263909

Walter Powell Pre School registered in 1999 and operates from within the grounds of Somerfords Walter Powell School, in the village of Great Somerford, near Chippenham, Wiltshire. The pre-school employs two members of staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school is open term time only and sessions are from 9am until 3pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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