

Sywell and Overstone Pre-School



Sywell Aerodrome, Bellman Gate, Holcot Lane, Sywell, NORTHAMPTON, NN6 0BL

Inspection date	8 June 2017
Previous inspection date	10 February 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

- The quality of teaching is good. Staff know how to support children through regular conversations and build on what they know and can do.
- Staff have established secure and trusting relationships with the children.
- Children are confident, happy and active learners who make good progress in relation to their starting points. The environment is well organised to enable children to access and use toys and resources independently.
- Staff promote children's positive behaviour. They work well together as a team and take a consistent approach to managing children's needs and promoting their well-being.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Staff ensure they are kept up to date with their children's ongoing care and learning. Parents speak highly of the welcoming environment and friendliness of the staff.
- The manager demonstrates her commitment to the continual development of the pre-school. She actively seeks the views of parents when evaluating the pre-school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff are over eager with their questioning and do not always provide children with the time to think and respond before they ask the next question.
- The systems in place for monitoring staff's practice are not yet precisely focused on supporting staff to develop the quality of their teaching to an outstanding level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus more precisely on the methods used to monitor staff's performance to help them raise the quality of their teaching to the highest possible level
- extend opportunities for children to think more deeply as they formulate and deliver their answers to questions posed.

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 and completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and spoke to the chairperson. 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

Linda Newcombe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of the indicators of abuse and know how to report concerns, in order to safeguard and protect children from possible harm. Regular team meetings provide opportunities for staff to discuss ideas and share good practice. Staff implement what they have learnt from attending training courses to build on the good quality of the provision. The manager implements suitable recruitment procedures and checks the ongoing suitability of staff. She maintains a good overview of the activities and experiences provided for children. The manager monitors the progress made by different groups of children and uses this information effectively to identify any gaps in learning or provision. Additional funding to support children's development is used effectively. Good links have been established with schools and other providers, helping to ensure continuity of learning and care for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff effectively use information gained from their observations of the children to enhance and progress their learning. They use their current interests to plan activities that motivate children to explore different ways of doing things and encourage them to build on their own ideas. Staff promote children's language and communication skills well. They get involved in children's spontaneous play and conversations, introducing them to new words to extend their vocabulary. Children develop their knowledge of letters and sounds through everyday routines. For example, they take part in self-registration and are beginning to recognise familiar letters. Children enjoy spending time outdoors. They like watering the plants and caring for the vegetables they grow.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's emotional well-being is well promoted. An effective key-person system ensures that children's individual needs are well met. Children's growing independence and developing self-care skills are well supported. Practical daily routines and ongoing discussions help children understand the importance of good hygiene practices. Children are keen to help, for example, they tidy away the toys after play. Children develop an understanding of healthy lifestyles. Staff work with parents to provide healthy options for children's lunchboxes. They enjoy regular fresh air and exercise.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are motivated and eager to learn. They are keen on sharing their ideas and experiences and contribute well towards group activities. Children enjoy stories and sharing books. They understand that print carries meaning and gain confidence in their early writing skills. Children acquire the key skills and attitudes that they need for their move on to school and more formal learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY440798
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1095257
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 - 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	52
Name of registered person	Sywell and Overstone Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP910826
Date of previous inspection	10 February 2015
Telephone number	01604670933

Sywell and Overstone Pre-School registered in 2012. The pre-school employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications, including one who holds qualified teacher status. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 8am until 4.15pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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