

Bicton Heath Pre-School

Pensfold, Bicton Heath, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY3 5HF



Inspection date

15 June 2017

Previous inspection date

9 April 2014

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

- Self-evaluation is good. The managers use feedback to help develop the pre-school. Since the last inspection, staff have enhanced the outdoor area to help promote children's learning outside. Also, staff now adapt their teaching to support the needs of younger and older children.
- Staff have good relationships with staff at other settings children attend and share information with them about children's progress. This helps to promote continuity in children's learning. Managers are building strong links with local health visitors to promote a joined-up approach to supporting children's development.
- Children benefit from a varied curriculum. Staff observe children's achievements and use this information to plan activities that reflect their interests and styles of learning.
- Staff promote children's healthy lifestyles. Children enjoy nutritious snacks and staff are good role models as they eat healthy food alongside them. Children are active outside and develop good physical skills, such as throwing balls.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The managers' monitoring of staff practice is not yet rigorous enough, to help raise the quality of teaching to a consistently high level.
- Staff do not encourage parents enough to share detailed information about children's knowledge and skills from home when they first start. They also do not always share with parents how they can support their children's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the monitoring of staff to tackle any minor variations in practice and help raise the quality of teaching further still
- further support parents to share information about children's capabilities when they first start, and provide parents with more information about how they can support their children's learning at home.

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 one of the managers.
- The inspector held a meeting with one of the managers. He looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Scott Thomas-White

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Managers and staff understand child protection procedures well, including how to report concerns about children's welfare. Policies are robust and managers investigate any concerns they receive. Managers vet staff and volunteers to help ensure they are suitable to work with children. Thorough risk assessments help to keep children safe at the pre-school. Staff make good use of knowledge and skills gained from training to support children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Monitoring of children's learning is effective. For example, managers identify ways to accelerate aspects of girls learning, such as their communication and language skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff carefully plan activities to help all children reach the next stage in their learning. They teach older children mathematical concepts, including recognising shapes and quantity and measure. Staff place a strong emphasis on supporting children who speak English as an additional language. They help children pronounce sounds correctly and say new words. Staff teach children about different customs. For instance, they explain about the custom of giving presents and cards to dads on Father's Day when children make Father's Day cards. Overall, staff involve parents in children's everyday learning at pre-school. For example, staff ask parents for their children to bring in items from home, such as shells to support children's learning of under the sea.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are highly independent. For example, they make choices of what to play with during child-led activities. Children also enjoy being the snack time monitor to hand out plates and cups. All children behave well. They follow rules, share toys and take turns. New children settle in well. All children have a key person and they develop strong bonds with them. Staff support children who are due to start school to develop a positive attitude about their move to school. Staff give children's safety the utmost priority. For example, they organise children's arrival and departure effectively to help keep them safe. Staff attentively care for children, including changing children's nappies regularly.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning and they acquire some of the skills they need for school or the next stage in learning. Children are developing early writing skills. They learn how to hold a pencil correctly, draw some shapes and write their name. Children are enthusiastic learners. They have high self-esteem and proudly show off their achievements. Older children acquire good literacy skills. They recognise the sounds of letters and can name other words beginning with the same sound.

Setting details

Unique reference number	224041
Local authority	Shropshire
Inspection number	1087687
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	24
Name of registered person	Mrs Lorraine Evans & Mrs Anita Copeland Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP522546
Date of previous inspection	9 April 2014
Telephone number	01743367641

Bicton Heath Pre-School registered in 1997 and is run by a private provider. It is situated in the grounds of Oxon C of E Primary School in Shrewsbury, Shropshire. The pre-school employs three members of staff who work with the children. Of these, one has a degree, one has a foundation degree and the other holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The pre-school opens term time only from 9am to 3.15pm Monday to Thursday. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for two, three- and four-year-old children.

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