

Wind In The Willows Pre School

West Lodge, Locksway Road, Southsea, PO4 8JW



Inspection date

19 June 2017

Previous inspection date

20 June 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- A highly stimulating and meticulously planned learning environment coupled with skilled staff help children make exceedingly good progress in their development.
- The inspirational management team has worked tirelessly since the last inspection to raise standards to a high level. Excellent attention to staff performance, training and development is reaping benefits for the children.
- The management team responsible for teaching is expert in monitoring the delivery of play, learning and assessment. Children's needs are swiftly identified and met extremely well, through timely interventions and high-quality teaching.
- Innovative links in the local and wider community, for example, with the older generation and the Gambia school, develop children's understanding of the world highly successfully.
- A first-class partnership with parents exists. Open and transparent communication, alongside extremely strong relationships, helps children and families to feel very valued and happy with their early years experience. Parents' 'stay and play' sessions help them carry on children's learning at home, such as on phonics and mathematics for pre-school children.
- Meeting the safeguarding and welfare requirements is at the heart of all the staff's practice. Staff are vigilant and trained to support children at risk. They talk very confidently about child protection and safeguarding, including how this links to extreme views.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance older children's technological learning opportunities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to children, observed the children's play activities indoors and outdoors, looked at the available resources and read relevant documentation.
- The inspector held a meeting with the managers and providers to discuss their leadership and management, including self-evaluation methods.
- The inspector spoke to a sample of parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Loraine Wardlaw

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The very competent team works exceedingly cohesively together. The pursuit of excellence and an uncompromising drive towards improvement has enabled the nursery to go from strength to strength. The manager and lead provider deliver inspirational training to enthuse staff and develop their expertise, for example, in supporting boys and providing high-quality life experiences. Staff are empowered to evaluate and review their room arrangement, resources, and teaching and learning approaches, to identify improvements on an ongoing basis. Very strong partnership working with local settings and other professionals to support children who have disabilities contributes to the high care and learning outcomes. Safeguarding is effective. Staff practice consistently reflects the highest aspirations for children's safety and well-being.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The exceptional play opportunities completely engage children in deep levels of learning. Staff are deployed according to their strengths. They show consistent expertise in child development and teaching. They effectively tune in to each child and offer high-quality, tailored interaction, enabling children to flourish. Babies are excited and fascinated when staff set up brightly coloured, light-up toys in a dark tunnel. Staff offer babies consistent challenge to move, to vocalise and to engage socially in enjoyable, playful interactions. Pre-school staff pay excellent attention to develop children's understanding of the sounds of letters. High learning outcomes for problem solving and mathematics are encouraged. For example, staff give children two toy dinosaurs to feed and 12 biscuits. They engage children in superb discussion about how to divide the biscuits. However, there is slightly less emphasis on children's use of technology.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The staff team has a comprehensive knowledge of each child and its family. They are highly skilled in their role as key persons to ensure that children of all ages become confident learners with very secure emotional attachments. Children's behaviour is impeccable. They show high levels of kindness, self-control and confidence in social situations, such as helping a friend to do up their sandals, developing essential skills for their future learning. An exceptionally well-planned outdoor area stimulates lengthy, focused and collaborative play. Children have fun and manage risks outdoors, such as when they climb a tree safely. Staff pay excellent attention to children's health and safety because it is central to everything they do. For example, they conduct a morning safety check and are continuously vigilant, particularly for hazards in the outdoor environment.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children become engrossed and exceedingly focused in innovating, active play. Two-year-olds are fascinated as they explore an amazing small-world farm. Older children experiment with real vegetables and cocktail sticks, developing their physical skills and imagination. They are confident communicators and have a great understanding of the world. For instance, they talk about how they grew pea pods at nursery and explain to unfamiliar adults that their tadpoles, 'Turned into frogs and they jumped away'.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY486626
Local authority	Portsmouth
Inspection number	1095863
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	88
Name of registered person	Wind In The Willows (Portsmouth) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP535283
Date of previous inspection	20 June 2016
Telephone number	07557958728

Wind In The Willows Pre School registered in 2015. The provision is privately run and operates from a National Health Service building in Southsea, Portsmouth. The provision opens five days a week from 7.15am to 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. There are 16 members of staff working with the children and all except three hold early years qualifications from level 2 to 6. The provider receives funding to deliver free early education to children aged two, three and four years.

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