

Mucky Pups Pre-School

The Scout Hut, Magnolia Road, Ashingdon, Rochford, Essex, SS4 3AD



Inspection date

20 June 2017

Previous inspection date

18 March 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

- Staff know children's interests and current skills and abilities. They regularly observe and assess children's development and provide activities and experiences to engage and inspire them.
- Children are cared for in a safe, secure and well-resourced environment. They are well supported when they start in the pre-school.
- Staff work closely with parents who are very complimentary about the setting and staff team. Information is regularly shared, supporting continuity in children's care and learning needs.
- Staff provide children with a wide range of exciting and challenging activities, this means that they develop into enthusiastic and motivated learners. All children develop a good range of skills and attitudes that prepares them well for future learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always maximise opportunities for mostre-able children to link sounds to letters and build on their good literacy skills.
- New systems for monitoring staff's performance are not yet fully embedded to ensure high-quality supervisions.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen opportunities for most-rable children to learn to link sounds and letters that further enhance their good literacy skills
- extend the performance management and monitoring systems further to continue to strengthen and improve on good practice and raise the quality of teaching to the highest level.

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 the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager and provider. 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

Tina Mason

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The managers and staff know how to implement safeguarding policies and procedures effectively to ensure children's health, safety and security. Staff understand their role in protecting children from harm. They are aware of what to do should they have any concerns about children's welfare. Staff are vigilant, well deployed and adult-to-child ratios are maintained well. Policies and procedures, including those for administering medication and dealing with accidents, are in place, understood and effectively implemented. Recruitment and vetting procedures are robust. Self-evaluation is used as an ongoing tool to help staff reflect upon areas that can be improved. The views of parents, children and early years professionals are used to inform targeted plans for improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children show high levels of engagement during their play and benefit from the effective balance of adult-led and child-initiated play. Children choose where they would like to play and enjoy a wide range of resources that supports their learning across all areas of development. There is a strong focus on promoting children's speaking and listening skills. Staff use every opportunity to reinforce children's vocabulary and conversation skills throughout their time at the setting. They are skilled at asking effective questions to help challenge and develop children's thinking. Staff take every opportunity to reinforce basic mathematical skills as children count and discuss quantity. Children enjoy creative play and use different tools effectively to investigate and help encourage small fine-muscle motor skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff create a warm and welcoming atmosphere where children and parents feel at ease. Staff are caring, kind and approachable. All children show that they feel safe, secure and settled. The well-established key-person system means that children quickly grow in confidence to explore the environment and lead their own play. Children develop very good risk assessment skills as they navigate around obstacles and show good control of their bodies. They are careful not to bump into each other when running around the outdoor side play area. They develop a good awareness of healthy lifestyles. Children enjoy a healthy snack menu. Staff encourage conversations about the importance of a healthy diet as they sit and chat with the children at snack time.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop key skills in readiness for when they start school. They have ample opportunities to develop their early writing skills, generally, and learn to listen and respond to instructions. Children enjoy group story sessions and looking at books independently. All children make good progress in their learning given their starting points and capabilities. Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are very well supported. Staff draw on the expertise of a wide range of other professionals to ensure that children's care and learning needs are fully met.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY316938
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1092526
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	32
Name of registered person	Mucky Pups Pre School Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP908982
Date of previous inspection	18 March 2015
Telephone number	07944162953

Mucky Pups was registered in 2004. The pre-school employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above. The pre-school opens on Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 9.15am until 12.15pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery supports children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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