

Heald Green Methodist Pre-School

Brown Lane, Heald Green, CHEADLE, Cheshire, SK8 3RR



Inspection date

22 June 2017

Previous inspection date

6 January 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

- Children have positive relationships with each other and staff. They are happy at the pre-school. Staff plan carefully tailored sessions to help children settle in with ease and support their emotional well-being.
- Staff work closely with other professionals, including other early years providers and schools to share information. This helps to achieve a consistent approach to meet children's individual needs.
- Parents highly praise the pre-school and comment that the staff are friendly, caring and very approachable.
- Children demonstrate positive behaviour and are helpful and kind to one another. Staff are good role models and use effective strategies to help children learn behavioural expectations.
- The manager accurately evaluates the quality of the pre-school and sets actions for continual improvement. She encourages staff, children and parents to contribute their views and ideas.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff miss opportunities to challenge children's thinking and extend their ideas as fully as possible.
- The arrangements for supervision of staff performance do not precisely focus on raising the quality of teaching to outstanding.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of opportunities to consistently extend learning opportunities for children and provide higher levels of challenge
- build on the arrangements for monitoring and developing staff performance to 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 manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager who is also the 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 written views.

Inspector

Farzana Iqbal

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff know the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about children in their care. Robust security procedures and close supervision of children helps to ensure their safety. The manager follows secure recruitment and induction procedures to support new staff closely. She effectively monitors children's progress, including specific groups of children. This helps her to swiftly identify any gaps in development and provide appropriate support. The manager reviews staff's assessments of children's progress. For example, they hold regular meetings to ensure that children receive effective levels of support and make good progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use observations and assessments of children's progress to know what children need to learn next. Furthermore, staff skilfully adapt activities to meet children's different learning styles. For example, they provide an outdoor reading area and mark-making activities in popular areas to encourage boy's early interest in literacy. Children are eager to learn. For example, they experiment with water and sand and discuss the changes in texture. Some staff have attended specific training to increase their knowledge about supporting children's speech skills. Children enjoy singing songs and listening to their favourite stories. They gain increasing confidence to speak in groups and share their opinions. Some children demonstrate good mathematical skills. For example, they count objects skilfully and calculate how many cards they need to make their train tracks.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children learn that it is important to share and take turns. For example, staff use a puppet during group activities so that children know to listen patiently and take turns in speaking. Furthermore, they kindly share spades and water containers to explore activities outdoors. Children enjoy being active and have opportunities to develop their physical skills. The manager and staff have developed a strong and effective key-person system. For instance, home visits provide opportunities to share important information with parents before children start pre-school. Staff support children's good health and hygiene. For example, children demonstrate thorough handwashing skills. The manager shares updates with parents about healthy eating and oral health.

Outcomes for children are good

Children demonstrate high levels of curiosity and motivation in their learning. For example, they ask staff how to make pretzels and create their own versions using play dough. They inquisitively ask about and learn the names of different parts of an egg after reading a relevant story. They develop good investigative skills and enjoy experimenting. For instance, they pour water and drop plastic balls down a set of pipes and comment on which is faster. Children develop good independence and make choices about their play. Overall, children develop skills in preparation for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	307155
Local authority	Stockport
Inspection number	1090642
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	3 - 4
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	41
Name of registered person	Heald Green Methodist Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP902060
Date of previous inspection	6 January 2015
Telephone number	077623 11604

Heald Green Methodist Pre-School registered in 1989. It operates from Heald Green Methodist Church in Heald Green, Stockport. The pre-school is managed by a committee. It is open each weekday from 9am to 3pm during school term time. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The pre-school supports children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. There are six childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and 3. The manager holds a level 5 foundation degree in early years.

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