

Much Hadham Pre-School

Oudle Lane, Much Hadham, HERTS, SG10 6DQ



Inspection date

29 June 2017

Previous inspection date

12 May 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 good opportunities to enjoy fresh air and be active. They develop a variety of physical skills in the well-equipped outside area.
- Staff use spontaneous opportunities, such as when children use the crossing in the outside play area to promote their understanding of their personal safety.
- The manager and the committee promote good opportunities for staff to follow their own professional development. Regular supervision and appraisal meetings enable staff to identify and discuss their own strengths and areas for improvements.
- Children's well-being is supported by warm and caring staff. Personal care needs are suitably met and staff maintain appropriate records for nappy changing.
- Children explore the warm and welcoming environment with confidence and they develop good imaginative skills. Children dress up and become different characters as they explore the role-play area.
- Staff promote children's communication and language development. For example, they ask a wide range of probing questions. This encourages children to think further and voice their own ideas and suggestions.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff do not recognise when to adjust their teaching to present further challenge for most-able children.
- Partnerships with school staff outside of the local area are not as effective in supporting children's move to school.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- adapt activities to provide further challenge for most-able children
- strengthen partnership working with other schools that children are moving on to outside of the local area.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed an adult-led story time and evaluated this with the manager.
- 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 to children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through discussions during the inspection.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the manager and the committee. She looked at relevant documentation and saw evidence of the staff's and the committee's suitability.

Inspector

Jo Rowley

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff demonstrate a strong understanding of their roles and responsibilities to protect children in their care. They attend regular child protection training and know who the designated safeguarding person is if they have concerns about children's welfare. Staff are aware of what to do if an allegation is made and they are aware of the whistleblowing policy. The manager and the committee follow the correct processes when dealing with concerns. The complaints procedure is followed effectively and a record of complaints is appropriately kept. The policies and procedures are available for all parents and visitors to access. These are reviewed and updated effectively. The manager has a strong partnership with the committee which provides good support. They meet regularly to share information, including the monitoring of practice and discussions to support the whole staff team. Staff have an effective relationship with parents. They promote good opportunities for sharing information and parents speak highly of them.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Regular observations are used to track and assess children's progress. Staff incorporate children's next steps in learning and their individual interests into activities that engage them. For example, children are motivated and enthusiastic to learn as staff read stories that interest them. They encourage children to join in which they do so excitedly. Staff ensure that children have quality time to finish what they start. For example, children are able to complete the tasks they are busy with before joining others for group-time activities. This supports children to fully engage in their chosen activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour is good. Staff are effective role models, regularly praising and encouraging them. Staff support children to learn about turn taking. Children work out problems for themselves and remind each other of the need to share. Staff encourage children to learn about healthy eating. For example, they take part in planting and growing activities. Children talk confidently as they describe how the broad beans need sunshine and water to help them grow. They pick the beans, opening them to look inside the pods. Staff support children's early speech development, encouraging them to talk about the different textures they feel.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning given their starting points and capabilities. They are acquiring the key skills they need for future learning. Children enjoy activities, such as painting, which help them to improve their creative skills. They develop a range of skills in the outside area as they climb, balance and ride on wheeled toys. Staff interaction is good. Children have time to think about how to respond to questions and comments from staff, promoting strong opportunities for them to think independently.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127813
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1089383
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 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	39
Name of registered person	Much Hadham Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP905090
Date of previous inspection	12 May 2015
Telephone number	01279 842614

Much Hadham Pre-School registered in 1992. The pre-school employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9am to 3pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two- and three-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2017

