

Hockley Pre-School

United Reformed Church, Bramerton Road, Hockley, Essex, SS5 4PJ



Inspection date

5 July 2017

Previous inspection date

6 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

- Monitoring of children's progress identifies where there are gaps in achievement between different groups of children. Additional funding is used well to support children's development. Successful partnership working means children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported very well.
- Children feel safe and secure and enjoy their time in this stimulating and nurturing pre-school. They form strong attachments to caring staff, promoting their emotional well-being.
- Children learn to behave well. Staff act as positive role models as they help children learn to share and take turns.
- Staff have very good partnerships with parents, warmly welcoming them into the setting. Various strategies are used to engage parents, share information and further support children's learning at home. Parents highly praise the care and learning their children receive.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff provide fewer opportunities to fully support children who prefer to learn outdoors.
- The management team has not fully implemented an effective process to support staff even further to ensure the quality of practice and teaching remains consistently strong.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build further on the opportunities to support those children who prefer to learn outdoors
- extend the process of staff support even further to ensure the quality of staff practice and teaching remains consistently strong.

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 deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school deputy manager and members of the committee. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to a few 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. Staff have a clear understanding of the child protection procedures and how to report any concerns they may have about the welfare of a child. Recruitment and induction procedures are robust. Most staff hold a paediatric first-aid qualification, helping to support children's well-being in the event of an accident. Children are well supervised and kept safe through the use of effective policies, procedures and risk assessments. Systems for evaluating what is working well and what needs to improve are good. This contributes to the good standards of care and learning and helps to continually improve the service provided for children and their families.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use a balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities to help children make good progress. They focus on supporting children's language and communication skills. For example, staff provide a running commentary about what children are doing. Staff provide a wide range of opportunities for children to be creative and play together. Children enjoy being imaginative as they play in the role-play area and with small-world toys. Staff take advantage of opportunities that arise to help promote children's progress. For example, as children enjoy playing with the modelling dough, staff teach them how to roll the dough flat and cut out shapes. This helps to promote children's physical development. Staff build on children's mathematical development well. They teach children about colour, shape and number in enjoyable ways. For example, when children explore real fruit, they discuss what shape and colour it is.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are friendly and welcoming. Children enter the pre-school with enthusiasm and are eager to play. They are happy and confident and demonstrate that they feel safe and secure. Children's behaviour is good and they are gaining a good understanding of expectations and boundaries. They develop their confidence and self-esteem, enjoying the praise they receive for their efforts and achievements. Staff use snack time to talk to children about being healthy and the benefits of eating healthy foods. Children benefit from fresh air as they enjoy playing outside. Staff encourage children to make choices in their play from a good range of easily accessible resources.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are becoming successful learners and acquire the skills they will need for moving on to school. They develop good communication and language skills and can express their wants and needs. Children are eager to learn and show sustained levels of interest during group activities and story sessions. They have opportunities to make marks, supporting their emerging writing skills. They develop their independence as they tidy away resources and change their shoes to go outside.

Setting details

Unique reference number	402192
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1091012
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	30
Number of children on roll	42
Name of registered person	Hockley Pre-School Group Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP520638
Date of previous inspection	6 March 2015
Telephone number	07415728665

Hockley Pre-School is run by a committee and opened in 1966. The setting operates from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 9.15am to 2.30pm Monday and Friday, 9.15am to 12.15pm Tuesday and Thursday and 9.15am to 1pm on Wednesday. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The pre-school employs nine members of staff, all of whom hold relevant early years qualifications, including five at level 3 and four at level 2.

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