

Seashell Pre-School

St James Church Hall, West Cotes, Tile Hill, Coventry, CV4 9BD



Inspection date

3 October 2017

Previous inspection date

3 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

- Children enter pre-school well. Staff greet them warmly and children quickly find their chosen friends and settle into their play.
- Staff know the children in their care very well. They gather detailed information from parents at the start of their child's placement, giving them a clear insight into their individual needs and routines.
- Staff plan a wide variety of activities that challenge and interest children successfully. They make good use of the play space available inside and outdoors, to support children's learning effectively. Staff monitor children's progress well.
- Staff work closely with other professionals involved in children's lives to ensure continuity in care and learning. Children feel safe and secure.
- Staff support children's love of books well. Children enjoy looking at books either alone or with a member of staff or friend. They independently choose from a wide variety of books.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff undertake mandatory professional development opportunities, management do not monitor performance consistently to support staff's ongoing development as effectively as possible.
- While staff share children's progress with parents, systems for engaging parents in their child's learning in the pre-school and at home are not fully established.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- sharpen the focus on monitoring staff practice to help raise the quality of teaching and learning and further support professional development
- review procedures for engaging parents in their child's learning at the pre-school and to support their learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of activities inside and outside and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the deputy of the pre-school.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and the deputy of the pre-school. She looked at relevant documentation including the suitability of staff working in the pre-school and the process for self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Tracey Boland

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Managers and staff are fully aware of their role in protecting children in their care from harm and neglect. Secure procedures for the recruitment of staff are established and the manager checks and monitors their ongoing suitability well. Staff undertake mandatory training to keep their knowledge up to date and ensure they are aware of current best practice. Staff identify and minimise risks to ensure children play in a safe and secure setting. Parents are happy with the service. They especially appreciate the variety of play opportunities the staff provide. Staff speak to parents to gather their views about the service they receive and use their comments to help inform the self-evaluation process.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff observe, assess and plan effectively for the individual learning needs of the children. Daily communication takes place between staff and parents. Staff support children's language development very well. Older children enjoy narrating their play. For example, they describe what they are making when using different construction materials. Younger children use simple words to express their ideas. Children develop good skills using technology. They use their skills to manoeuvre through different games and programs successfully. Children enjoy sensory experiences and explore different materials. For example, running their hands through shaving foam and sand and talking about how it feels. Children express themselves well through music. They move their bodies in time to different rhythms and beats. Children sing familiar songs and rhymes. They choose their favourite songs and complete the corresponding actions.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's individual care routines and needs are well known by staff and are met effectively throughout the day. Staff consistently support children's health and well-being. Children enjoy plenty of fresh air and exercise each day. Snacks are healthy and mealtimes are a social occasion. Children learn about where foods come from and how it is grown. They plant various fruits and vegetables in the pre-school's sensory garden and monitor their growth. Children behave well. They understand what is acceptable behaviour and the importance of sharing and taking turns as they play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress. They develop independence and confidently lead their play. Children make marks and learn to recognise the letters that form their name. For example, they find their own name card as they enter the pre-school and register their attendance each day. Children develop the key skills for future learning in readiness for the move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	223785
Local authority	Coventry
Inspection number	1090135
Type of provision	Full-time 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	32
Number of children on roll	26
Name of registered person	Janice Hunt
Registered person unique reference number	RP511434
Date of previous inspection	3 March 2015
Telephone number	07855427314

Seashell Pre-School registered in 1994. It employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 to level 5 and one holds a playwork qualification at level 1. The pre-school opens during term time only from Monday to Friday. Sessions are from 9am to 3pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and from 9am to midday on Friday. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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