

Woodlands Pre-School

Ruishton C of E VC Primary School, Newlands Road, Ruishton, Taunton, Somerset,
TA3 5JZ



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

31 October 2017

18 September 2014

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

- The committee and management communicate high expectations and provide good support to the experienced staff who work well together. Management and staff regularly review their practice and share their skills. For example, they complete peer reviews to improve the quality and consistency of their teaching.
- Staff support children's emotional well-being effectively. Familiar routines help children settle quickly and feel safe. Children have high self-esteem and form strong bonds with staff, who know them well and show them respect.
- Staff make particularly good use of well-planned, focused activities to support individual learning, which is an improvement since the last inspection. For example, staff use their training effectively to engage children in a 'silly soup' activity to support specific children's communication and language skills.
- All children, including those who have special educational needs, make good progress from their starting points. There are effective partnerships with parents and professionals, to maintain a consistent approach to children's care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff are too eager and over direct children's imaginative play. They do not always give them time to share and develop their ideas, and solve problems.
- Staff miss some opportunities to build on children's curiosity to help them explore, ask questions and make predictions.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage children to share and develop their ideas, and solve problems for themselves
- use all opportunities to build on children's curiosity about how things work to help them explore and make predictions.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the interactions and teaching of staff as children played inside and outside, and discussed children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with leaders, the manager, staff and children at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed two joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including those related to the suitability of staff, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector considered the written views of parents.

Inspector

Rachael Williams

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Management and staff have a good knowledge of their responsibilities to report any concerns about a child's welfare. They work successfully with local safeguarding agencies to protect children. There are effective arrangements to ensure staff suitability and for their continued professional development. Management and staff evaluate the provision well. They have a good understanding of how to improve, such as further developing the outdoor provision, in particular, to use recent training on promoting mathematics in the garden. Staff gather good information from parents when children start, to support their initial planning and encourage parents to contribute regularly. Staff keep parents well informed of their children's achievements.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use effective assessment and tracking to ensure children achieve well. Staff support children's communication and language skills successfully. For example, they use many opportunities to engage children in conversations, expand their vocabulary and question their understanding. Children listen and respond well to questions, such as accurately counting how many items they have in their trolley and how many more they need to complete the game. Children enjoy being creative. They explore colours and patterns confidently. Staff respect children's choices. They talk to them about their designs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enter the welcoming provision happily and behave well. They make decisions about their play from a good range of resources that supports their interests. Children show a good sense of belonging and show pride in their achievements. For example, they are keen to show parents their firework picture. Staff celebrate children's achievements well, for instance, displaying and valuing their creations. Staff help children learn about safety and provide them with clear explanations so that they understand what may happen, for example, if they swing the toy rod as they fish.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good skills in readiness for their eventual move to school. They show good independence and enjoy the responsibility of tasks, such as choosing and preparing their breakfast or snack. Older and most-able children skilfully recognise and match numbers, for example, on the 10 green bottles, and sequence them. Children listen well to sounds and identify familiar letters. Children move freely and in a variety of ways, such as balancing on the boards or adjusting their strides to jump across the tyres.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY387036
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1071103
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	40
Number of children on roll	38
Name of registered person	Woodlands Pre-school Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP907285
Date of previous inspection	18 September 2014
Telephone number	01823 444302

Woodlands Pre-School is a committee-run group that registered in 2009. The pre-school is situated in the grounds of Ruishton Primary School on the outskirts of Taunton, Somerset. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school is open on weekdays between 8am and 3pm, during term time only. The committee employs 10 members of staff. Of these, one holds an early years qualification at level 6, two at level 4 and six at level 3.

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