

Eastbourne Pre-School

EASTBOURNE SPORTS COMPLEX, Bourne Avenue, Darlington, DL1 1LJ



Inspection date

6 November 2017

Previous inspection date

9 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

- Parents praise the staff and the service they provide. They comment that their children's confidence, social development and communication skills have improved since attending the pre-school.
- There is a strong focus on promoting children's speaking and listening skills. Staff use every opportunity to reinforce children's vocabulary and conversation skills throughout their time at the pre-school.
- Staff are kind, caring and very friendly. They get to know children and their families well from the outset. Children develop positive relationships with staff. They swiftly become happy and demonstrate that they enjoy attending.
- Children behave well and staff act as good role models. Staff provide children with clear boundaries so they know what is expected of them.
- Staff deployment is organised well. This helps to ensure that children are safe and well supervised indoors and outside.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff have effective assessment and planning systems, they have yet to embed more sharply focused plans for individual children's next steps in learning.
- Staff do not engage all parents consistently in sharing their children's learning in the pre-school and at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus even more sharply on what individual children need to learn next
- explore more ways to engage all parents in their children's learning as part of their continuing involvement in their child's developmental progress.

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 manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All staff are trained in child protection and wider safeguarding issues and they know the procedure to follow if they have a concern. Robust procedures are in place to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. The manager ensures all staff receive regular support meetings to discuss any concerns that arise. Staff access training which is targeted to support the needs of the children who attend. For example, recent training in the use of simple sign language benefits all children, especially those who speak English as an additional language. This contributes towards good teaching practice and has a positive impact on children's learning and development. The manager closely monitors the progress of individual children and specific groups to help narrow any gaps in their learning. 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

Children benefit from a welcoming environment where staff are friendly, caring and spend quality time interacting and supporting them as they play. From the outset a strong focus is placed on promoting children's language skills. Staff model language and interact well with children as they play to help develop their vocabulary. They talk to them about their experiences outside of the pre-school to stimulate their creativity and imaginations. Children's understanding of mathematical concepts is promoted well. For example, staff use a wide range of language during activities, supporting children to develop good counting skills and an understanding of shape and size. Staff promote children's early literacy skills well. For example, they encourage children to draw and make marks with chalks, pens and crayons.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff make all children and their families very welcome. Children demonstrate that they feel safe and secure as they leave their parents on arrival to start to play. Staff praise children's good behaviour, efforts and achievements. This helps to promote children's self-esteem. Staff help children learn about healthy lifestyles. For example, children enjoy a range of nutritious snacks and drinks. Children's physical development is well supported and they move confidently in the indoor and outdoor play spaces.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points and taking into account their capabilities. They develop the key skills required in preparation for school. Children explore their surroundings and satisfy their natural curiosity as they try out a wide range of resources. They gain social skills as they play with their friends. Children enjoy listening to stories and joining in with songs and rhymes. Early mathematical skills are developing well. Children learn to sort objects, compare size and count as they play. They are learning to be independent. For example, they put on their own coats and boots to go outside.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY474700
Local authority	Darlington
Inspection number	1105755
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	24
Number of children on roll	25
Name of registered person	Gail Wilkinson
Registered person unique reference number	RP515502
Date of previous inspection	9 September 2014
Telephone number	07799358544

Eastbourne Pre-School registered in 2014. The pre-school employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds qualified teacher status, five hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 2. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions run from 9am until 3.30pm. The pre-school provides funded education places for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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