

The Meadows Community Pre-school



Catcliffe Primary School, Rotherham Road, Rotherham, S60 5SW

Inspection date	8 December 2017
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- All children are warmly welcomed into the safe and secure setting, by staff who wholeheartedly care about their learning and care needs. Staff know families extremely well and strive to give children the best start in life.
- Staff understand that each child is unique. They understand how children learn and develop and challenge children appropriately during play. Interesting activities are available for children to access and the environments indoors and outdoors are highly stimulating.
- Children behave very well. They understand the rules and boundaries. Staff use warm tones of voice as they speak to children to help them to understand behavioural expectations. Children create firm friendships with each other and staff.
- The manager closely monitors children's learning and their progress. She supports staff to monitor children's development and ensures any emerging gaps in their learning are swiftly closed. All children make good progress from their starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff undertake tasks for children that they can do themselves, which does not provide the best possible opportunities for children to develop their good independence even further.
- Staff have not fully explored ways to support parents to understand the importance of providing healthy and nutritious packed lunches for children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on opportunities for children to be even more independent
- share even more information with parents to support them to provide healthy and nutritious meals for children.

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 had a tour of the setting.
- The inspector spoke with staff, children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.

Inspector

Laura Hoyland

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Staff have good knowledge and understanding of how to safeguard children. They regularly attend safeguarding training and discuss relevant safeguarding legislation at staff meetings. All staff are suitably vetted and the recruitment procedure is robust. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff feel very supported and the small staff team work well together. They collaborate and devise action plans to set challenging but realistic targets to further improve the setting. Supervision meetings help staff to reflect on their practice. Furthermore, all staff regularly attend training to develop their knowledge and understanding of how children learn and develop. Recent training on supporting children's mathematical development has supported staff to improve the quality of activities provided for children and now staff naturally incorporate mathematical language into play.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and good at teaching children new skills. They effortlessly extend children's learning and challenge them in their play. They use a range of questioning techniques to promote children's thinking skills and hold conversations with them to develop their vocabulary. Children develop early literacy skills. For example, they make marks outside using bicycle tyres as they ride through puddles. All children enjoy group time. They learn about the days of the week and staff teach them about the initial sounds that letters represent. Staff regularly observe children at play and share their achievements and next steps in learning with parents. They also share the required progress checks for children between the ages of two and three. Parents enthusiastically discuss the online learning system, where they add photographs of children's learning at home, complementing learning in the setting.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children arrive excitedly and immediately settle into the daily routine. They have a clear sense of belonging and enjoy greeting staff as they arrive. Children hang their coats and bags on their individual pegs and are motivated to learn. Staff understand children's individual needs and medical requirements. They ensure dietary requirements are met and have care plans in place should children become ill in their care. Accidents are clearly recorded and communicated to parents promptly. All staff are qualified in paediatric first aid and able to manage minor illnesses and injuries. Children take small, calculated risks in their play and learn about the dangers in the environment. For instance, they climb small trees and negotiate the wooden bridge in the garden, balancing and walking with care. Staff tend to children's emotional needs swiftly and understand each child's personality.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are very well prepared for school. They are confident, follow instructions and want to learn. They are starting to recognise their names and sit for short periods of time showing good concentration. Children show kindness to each other.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY490654
Local authority	Rotherham
Inspection number	1018254
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	18
Name of registered person	The Meadows Community Pre-school
Registered person unique reference number	RP534687
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07494130955

The Meadows Community Pre-school registered in 2015 and is situated in Catcliffe, Rotherham. The setting employs four members of childcare staff, who all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The setting opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 8.15am until 3.45pm. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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