

Weston Wombats

Weston Village Hall, The Green, Weston, Stafford, Staffordshire, ST18 0JH



Inspection date

11 January 2018

Previous inspection date

13 June 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- Since the last inspection, managers have used the advice of other professionals to help them address the weaknesses found. They have implemented robust procedures for the administration of medication and to ensure all documentation is available for inspection.
- The manager effectively coaches and mentors staff, including those who have recently started working at the pre-school. This helps to ensure staff can fulfil their roles, such as managing children's behaviour effectively.
- Monitoring is effective, and the manager accurately identifies areas of children's learning and development where there is scope to enhance it even further.
- Staff work closely with external agencies and providers of other settings children attend to help promote continuity in children's learning and personal well-being.
- Teaching is strong, in particular staff's interactions with children to help extend children's play and build on their already vivid imaginations.
- Children who start at the pre-school quickly develop strong relationships with staff. The care children receive from staff is good, including the strong promotion of children's toileting skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Due to recent staff changes, resulting in a change to children's key persons, staff do not plan for all children's next steps as precisely as possible to help accelerate their progress to the highest possible level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- embed changes to the key-person system to help staff plan even more precisely for all children's next steps in learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during indoor and outdoor activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed an observation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager. He 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. He also met with the deputy headteacher of the local primary school.

Inspector

Scott Thomas-White

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Professional development has a positive impact on developing staff's knowledge and skills. For example, staff have made good use of the advice from their local authority adviser to identify and plan for children's individual learning styles. Supervision of staff is good and well focused on improving staff practice further, including helping staff to make accurate assessments of children's progress. Safeguarding is effective. Safer recruitment procedures are effective to help check staff suitability and give them a robust induction. All staff are knowledgeable about the child protection procedures of the pre-school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff teach younger children the skills they need for the next stage in their learning. For example, children thoroughly enjoy singing rhymes and marching with staff as they learn how to listen, pay attention and repeat rhymes. Older children develop the skills they need for school. For instance, staff teach them how to count and compare quantities, read familiar text and form recognisable letters. Staff are committed to engaging all parents in their children's learning. Recently, they have improved ways to help parents contribute to their children's development, from when they first start attending throughout their children's time at the pre-school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff set up a stimulating learning environment each day that reflects children's interests, such as their fascination of painting. They consider children's learning styles and promote these, such as providing plenty of opportunities throughout the day for those children who prefer to learn outside. Staff closely supervise children and provide activities that are safe but also allow children to explore. Children learn the skill of how to balance and move from the beginning to the end of a beam. Staff teach children good hygiene practices, such as learning how to wipe their own nose with a tissue, disposing of it and then cleaning their hands.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress, including those two-year-olds for whom the pre-school receives funding. Gaps are narrowing for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Both groups of children are becoming confident communicators as they learn how to ask simple questions and use new vocabulary. Children are independent and have good self-care skills, including being able to pour their own drinks at snack time. They also behave well, taking turns with toys and sharing popular resources. Children are expressive and have good moving and handling skills. They follow instructions during games to move in different ways, such as standing as 'tall as a tree' and as 'thin as a pin'.

Setting details

Unique reference number	218277
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1101387
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	20
Name of registered person	Weston Wombats Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP908604
Date of previous inspection	13 June 2017
Telephone number	07958 591 277 and 01785 607616

Weston Wombats registered in 1992. The pre-school is committee run and employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The pre-school opens on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9.15am until 2.45pm, and on Thursdays from 9.15am until 1.15pm, during term time only. It receives funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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