

Skips

West Kidlington School, Oxford Road, Kidlington, Oxfordshire, OX5 1EA



Inspection date	16 January 2018
Previous inspection date	15 October 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 management team demonstrates a strong commitment to improving the quality of the provision. Self-evaluation is ongoing and successfully identifies where the pre-school can be enhanced to improve outcomes for children.
- Children very clearly enjoy their time at this happy and nurturing group. They benefit from the wide range of stimulating and challenging play and learning experiences indoors and outside.
- Practitioners know the children well and have very positive and warm relationships with them. This helps children to develop secure emotional bonds. As a result, they are confident, independent learners who make decisions and choices for themselves.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Opportunities to help children learn about the world around them and their local community have not been fully explored.
- The professional development of practitioners is not yet specifically focused on raising the quality of teaching to an outstanding level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities for children to learn more about the world around them, including their knowledge of the local area
- extend the focus on practitioners' professional development, to raise the good teaching to the next level.

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 practitioners, children, parents and carers during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records, policies and procedures. She also checked evidence of committee members' and practitioners' suitability checks and qualifications.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Jackie Nation

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Practitioners are very clear about their role in protecting children. They undertake safeguarding training and demonstrate a secure knowledge of the procedures to follow in the event of a concern about a child's welfare. Robust procedures for recruitment and checking the ongoing suitability of practitioners are implemented well. Practitioners are very committed to their role and complete training to enhance their skills and outcomes for children. Assessment processes are thorough and used successfully to check children's progress. Links with parents are strong and this has a positive impact on children's learning. Parents comment very positively about the pre-school and like the exchanges in their child's 'chat books'. Some say it is 'excellent' and their children are 'very happy'.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Practitioners have a good understanding of how young children learn. Teaching strategies are effective and activities are well matched to children's needs and interests. Practitioners have a high level of interaction with the children as they play. They listen to what they say, ask questions and model language well. Children are given time to talk, and they listen attentively to well-read stories. They share their views during small-group time and confidently talk about what they enjoy doing. Children use their imagination and creative skills very well in the role-play and creative-play spaces. They enjoy manipulating dough and organise birthday parties in the home corner. Young children like to find out how things work, such as electronic toys. Older children enjoy completing puzzles and all children develop their fine-motor skills through activities, such as threading and making marks.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The atmosphere in the pre-school is very positive and the day is organised to ensure children get the most out of their time. Children's behaviour is good and they play well together and share resources. The environment supports children's learning very effectively and children have very good opportunities to play outdoors. Children enjoy healthy snacks and understand why they wash their hands before eating. This promotes children's good health, confidence and physical skills. Children who have special educational (SEN) needs have very good support that is closely matched to their individual needs. Practitioners work effectively with parents, other providers and professionals to support children's care and learning needs.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are enthusiastic and eager learners who develop the key skills they need to be ready for their move on to school. Children learn to respect others from different backgrounds and cultures, and learn about festivals, such as Diwali and Chinese New Year. Children's early mathematical skills develop well. Children learn to count, measure, identify shapes and learn about volume and capacity while playing in sand, water and pasta trays.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY294341
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	1070622
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	31
Number of children on roll	78
Name of registered person	South Kidlington Infant Pre-School - Skips Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP525034
Date of previous inspection	15 October 2014
Telephone number	07704 525312

Skips registered in 1970 and is run by a committee. The pre-school employs 13 members of staff, 10 of whom hold recognised childcare qualifications from level 2 to level 5. The pre-school is open Monday to Friday, during school terms. Sessions are from 8.45am until 11.45am and 12.30pm until 3.30pm. A breakfast club operates from 7.30am until 8.45am, the lunch club operates from 11.45am until 12.20pm and the teatime club from 3.30pm until 6pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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