

Meadow Brook Playcare

Meadow Children's Centre, Seaman Avenue, SAXMUNDHAM, Suffolk, IP17 1DZ



Inspection date

26 January 2018

Previous inspection date

3 May 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

- The management team is very passionate about the provision and has high expectations of what children can achieve. Consistent monitoring of practice contributes to continuous improvement. The action raised at the last inspection has been successfully addressed.
- Children are cared for in a welcoming environment by a friendly and caring staff team. They demonstrate that they are happy and enjoy their time at the nursery.
- Staff provide stimulating learning environments, indoors and outdoors. Children of all ages build their confidence as they explore and make choices for themselves.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Parents speak highly of the nursery. They comment on the approachable staff and about how their children enjoy attending. Staff are very successful in engaging parents in their children's ongoing learning.
- Staff promote children's literacy well throughout the nursery. Children have regular access to a range of books and resources to stimulate their early reading and writing skills. These opportunities help to prepare them well for their move on to school.
- The nursery is well established within the local community. Staff work in close partnership with other professionals to support all children in their care and learning. This contributes to the good progress children make.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff overlook opportunities to extend children's thinking skills and learning to higher levels, to help them make higher rates of progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's opportunities to develop their thoughts and to think through their own ideas, allowing them to take their learning to a higher 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 staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Karen Harris

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are confident and knowledgeable about their individual responsibilities to keep children safe and protected from harm. They are fully aware of what to do should they have any concerns about children's welfare. The management team uses thorough procedures to assess the suitability of committee members and to ensure the safe recruitment and ongoing suitability of staff. Managers regularly monitor staff performance to improve outcomes for children. They offer guidance, provide additional support to less confident staff and identify training for them to complete, helping to raise the quality of their teaching practice. Managers regularly monitor all children's progress. Effective strategies are in place to manage any identified gaps in learning. The manager and staff spend additional funding effectively, to help promote children's development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff get to know the children well and talk confidently about their likes, dislikes, interests and stages of development. They closely follow children's interests as they play. Staff plan suitably challenging activities to help children achieve the next steps in their learning. This contributes to the good progress they make. For example, staff use small-group activities to help support older children's communication and listening skills. Children listen well to instructions and work together to complete a floor puzzle. Staff interact well to support children to be motivated to play and learn. Children of all ages have regular physical play opportunities. Babies and toddlers have ample space to move around safely. They are inquisitive and actively explore their surroundings. Staff provide support when necessary. Pre-school children learn about the world around them through first-hand experiences. For example, they enthusiastically experiment with herbs and water in the outdoor kitchen and have opportunities to explore the local woodland.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff manage children's moves from home to nursery, and from one room to the next room, well and meet the individual needs of children and parents. Children behave well. Staff praise children as they recognise their efforts and achievements. This helps to raise their confidence and sense of self-esteem. Staff support children to follow good hygiene routines. Children experience sociable mealtimes as they sit alongside their peers and staff. They demonstrate good levels of independence. For example, pre-school children select what they would like to eat and clear away their plates afterwards.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop many skills needed to help prepare them for the next stages in their learning, such as starting school. They learn to share and take turns. Children of all ages enjoy looking at books. Pre-school children are confident to talk to others and share their experiences. They are motivated and keen to join in with focused group activities. All children make good progress in their learning given their starting points and capabilities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY368195
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	1099376
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	48
Number of children on roll	75
Name of registered person	Meadow Brook Playcare Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP910388
Date of previous inspection	3 May 2017
Telephone number	01728 604 768

Meadow Brook Playcare registered in 2008. The nursery employs 14 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, for 50 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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