

Inspection date	30 January 2018
Previous inspection date	2 December 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 express their complete satisfaction with the pre-school and its dedicated and caring staff. They comment on their children's enthusiasm to attend and say they are very pleased with the progress their children make, particularly in developing their communication skills.
- Children are confident, behave well and build strong relationships with each other and staff. Staff show a genuine interest when children proudly show them the work they have done, encouraging them to 'have a go' and to try new skills.
- Partnerships with external agencies, health professionals and parents are strong. Together they establish targeted plans to support children's individual needs, to help them to make good progress in their learning and development.
- The manager has good systems to monitor children's development, identify gaps quickly and ensure children receive any additional support they may need.
- Staff undertake regular checks of the environment to ensure it remains a safe place for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always take account of the ages and abilities of children during group activities and so some children are not able to participate fully.
- Occasionally, staff do not take account of the space available when planning activities and so children cannot always fully engage or they lose enthusiasm in the activity.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- take greater account of the different ages and abilities of children so that all children can be fully involved in activities
- make sure that there is enough space available for children to participate fully in activities.

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 carried out a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held meetings with the pre-school manager. She spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation and a range of other documentation, including risk assessments and accident records and she discussed the pre-school's self-evaluation document with the manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.

Inspector

Karen Laycock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff attend child protection training and know their responsibilities to help to keep children safe from harm. The manager supports her staff well through supervisory meetings and peer reviews and allocates them different roles and responsibilities. They take on duties, such as ensuring support for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities is provided when needed, and that the progress check for children aged between two and three years is completed for all children. This helps staff to learn new skills and to promote their professional development. The manager uses robust recruitment, vetting and induction procedures to ensure staff's suitability to work with children. The ongoing reflection of the service staff provide is effective and enables them to continually improve children's experiences and learning outcomes.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff demonstrate good teaching skills. Staff plan stimulating activities that they know children will enjoy. Overall, they plan effectively for each child's individual learning. Staff help children to develop their mathematical skills. They ask them to count the number of children present during registration. Staff encourage children to make predictions in their play and during story time. They use mathematical language, such as big and little, when offering children different sized cutters to use with dough.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children play in a very welcoming, inclusive environment. They arrive ready to join their friends in their play. Children behave very well and use good manners. Staff encourage children to talk about their feelings. They show them pictures and children say whether the characters are happy or sad. Staff teach children the importance of a healthy lifestyle effectively. Children enjoy and learn about the benefits of exercise and fresh air. Successful links with the local schools support children to make smooth transitions when the time comes. Children demonstrate their good independence, such as taking responsibility for hanging up their coat on arrival.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points and are well prepared for their next stage of learning. Children are confident communicators. They are happy to address a large group of children to show and talk about toys they have brought from home. They are beginning to link sounds to letters and some children can write some letters of their name. Children demonstrate high levels of maturity as they work together to resolve issues for themselves

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY226107
Local authority	Cheshire West and Chester
Inspection number	1103973
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	2 - 4
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	51
Name of registered person	Smallworld Sandiway Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP546158
Date of previous inspection	2 December 2014
Telephone number	07985094776 0160645422

Smallworld registered in 2002. The pre-school is open Monday to Friday, from 7.45am until 6pm during term time. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The pre-school employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold qualifications at level 3 and above.

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