

Hallgrove Community Pre-School



Care of Ludwick Family Club, Hall Grove, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, AL7 4PH

Inspection date 28 February 2018
Previous inspection date 17 March 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 staff have made positive changes, which have had a significant impact on the way in which they observe, assess and plan for children's learning. The well-established staff work together effectively and support children to make good progress.
- Children's speech and language development is promoted well. Staff introduce sign language during group activities and use children's individual likes and interests to incorporate their next steps in learning.
- The provider encourages effective staff development. She monitors staff practice through observations and she carries out regular supervision meetings. This supports staff's professional development and addresses any areas for improvement.
- Staff promote children's mathematical development. For example, children talk about size as they use a range of different sized balls during physical activity. In addition, they work out how the train track needs to be organised to fit all the pieces together.
- The key-person system is effective. Parents and staff work closely to ensure that children's care and learning is tailored to meet their individual needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, some staff do not recognise when activities can be adapted to present even more challenge for the most able children.
- Sometimes, staff discussions interrupt children's attention and concentration during focused activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- adapt activities to provide further challenge for most-able children
- strengthen opportunities for children to concentrate and maintain attention during focused activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed an adult-led activity and evaluated this with the provider.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the provider. She looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through discussion.

Inspector

Jo Rowley

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The provider and her staff demonstrate a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities in protecting children. Staff follow safeguarding policies and procedures consistently and they work professionally with other agencies to safeguard children's welfare. Staff training and development is promoted well. The provider encourages staff to identify their individual strengths and areas for improvement during regular supervision meetings. She provides good opportunities for them to share information from specific training with the staff team. This means all staff benefit from shared knowledge and expertise. Staff have good partnerships with parents. They regularly share information and keep them up to date with their children's progress and achievements. Parents are supported to extend their children's learning at home. For example, staff encourage children to take home a library book to share with their parents. Additionally, staff have strong partnerships with other professionals. They share information successfully to ensure that children's care and well-being are consistently promoted.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use observations consistently and they recognise what children like to do. They plan regularly to incorporate all areas of learning. Staff provide interesting activities and experiences that children enjoy. Staff encourage children to develop their imaginations and curiosity through stimulating activities and experiences that link to their interests. For example, children explore space. They excitedly share their knowledge of how rockets 'shoot to the moon' and make full use of the 'moon dust' staff make to move their rockets through and create their own play. Staff motivate children and they respond well to this. Staff interaction is enthusiastic and they show genuine interest in children's learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff promote good opportunities for children to develop their physical skills. During extremely cold weather when children cannot use the outside area, they make full use of a large indoor room. Children have a lot of fun running, jumping and hopping. They play games and enjoy opportunities to be creative. Children help staff to prepare the daily fruit snack. They show good independence skills as they peel and cut fruit for the group with staff. Children follow good hygiene routines and staff support them to develop a good understanding of healthy lifestyles. Children behave well. Staff promote consistent boundaries and spend time talking to them about the importance of sharing and taking turns. Staff praise children and encourage their self-confidence. For example, children are verbally rewarded for their good listening during story time.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are making effective progress in their learning given their starting points and capabilities. They gain the skills they need to be ready for school or the next stage of their learning. Children are confident. They form close friendships with staff and children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	148123
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1096808
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 - 3
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	20
Name of registered person	Hallgrove Community Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP911143
Date of previous inspection	17 March 2017
Telephone number	01707 880 890

Hallgrove Community Pre-School registered in 1992. The pre-school employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday from 9am until midday, term time only. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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