

Paddocks Pre-School

Laindon Recreation Ground, Pound Lane, Laindon, Basildon, SS15 5SP



Inspection date	23 March 2018
Previous inspection date	16 June 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

- Staff create a welcoming and nurturing environment to help children learn. They support children's emotional well-being very well. Children have a close relationship with staff and they develop a strong sense of belonging.
- Children behave well and confidently access the stimulating resources set out for them. Staff praise the children, helping to promote confidence and a sense of self-esteem.
- Parents are very complimentary about the nursery and the attention that the staff provide to their children. They say that staff support them with areas, such as toileting. Staff speak to parents daily to help keep them informed about their children's progress.
- The manager and staff work well together to identify continuous improvements that benefit children. They check the progress made by all groups of children and use this information to implement appropriate teaching strategies to help support children's ongoing learning.
- Children make good progress. Staff use observations and assessments of children well and plan effectively for what children need to learn next.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff sometimes overlook opportunities to expand children's understanding of healthy eating and how this contributes to maintaining their good health.
- Staff miss opportunities to extend children's understanding of the natural world.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to deepen their understanding of how healthy eating benefits their health and well-being
- give children more opportunities to further develop their understanding of the natural world.

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 held discussions with the manager and staff at appropriate times.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Helen Harper

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager regularly observes and evaluates the quality of teaching. The staff have a good understanding of their roles. They engage in professional development to build on their existing skills. For example, recent training has helped them to consider how to support the younger children within their group. Safeguarding is effective. The manager ensures that staff keep their knowledge of child protection up to date. Staff are clear about their responsibilities to report any signs that may suggest a child is at risk of harm. The manager monitors all children's progress effectively, helping to ensure that any gaps in their learning are swiftly addressed. The manager has spent time evaluating the setting and has an understanding of the pre-school's strengths and areas for improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff offer a good balance between planned activities and those children choose for themselves. Children are supported effectively as they play. For example they confidently count as they use large tweezers to lift and move pom-poms from one box to another. This helps support their mathematical development and fine-motor skills. Staff support children's communication and language skills well. For example, as children enthusiastically join in and sing an action song about a farm and choose which animal will be next. Children have fun catching bubbles with hoops outside and use water to make marks. Staff provide opportunities for children to learn key skills in readiness for their move on to school. For example, they find their own names and put on their own coats.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children sing a welcome song at circle time and enjoy being greeted into the group. Staff take time to know as much as possible about children before they start and are very attentive to their needs. This helps new children feel secure and settled. Staff praise children, helping to promote their confidence and sense of self-esteem. Children demonstrate good self-care skills. They put on their aprons and wash their hands before snack time. Children's physical development is supported well. For example, they kick, throw and catch balls outside and enjoy exploring a basket of zips indoors. Children communicate well and their behaviour is very good. Staff share the 'golden rules' with children. This helps them understand what is expected of them. They develop strong social skills and confidently negotiate and take turns with their friends.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress. They show high levels of concentration in both self-chosen and planned activities. Children are sociable, form friendships and share resources. They listen well at group time and follow instructions and routines. They create pictures using paints and are proud to show their achievements.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY469367
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1088229
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 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	29
Name of registered person	Serendipity Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP531425
Date of previous inspection	16 June 2014
Telephone number	07742 004091

Paddocks Pre-School registered in 2013. It employs four staff, three of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday during school term times. Sessions are from 9.15am until 12.15pm.

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