

Highworth Pre-School

Highworth Pre-school, Newburgh Place, Highworth, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN6 7DN



Inspection date

23 April 2018

Previous inspection date

3 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 pre-school is well led and managed by the leadership team. Teamwork is strong and all members of staff strive to ensure that children do as well as they can. Leaders effectively review practice and take positive steps to bring about improvements. For example, since the last inspection, staff have strengthened provision for different groups of children.
- Staff use assessments effectively to monitor progress and build on children's capabilities and interests. Children are well taught and are provided with an interesting range of indoor and outdoor activities which challenges and engages them.
- All groups of children, including the most able and those who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities, make good progress from their starting points.
- Leaders and staff have created a positive, stimulating and welcoming learning environment. Children are motivated to learn. They gain in confidence and independence. Children relate well to others and their good behaviour effectively supports their learning.
- Staff establish good partnerships with parents. Parents are kept well informed about their child's progress. They work closely with staff to successfully support their child's learning at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children's outcomes in understanding of the world are not as strong as other areas of learning. Staff sometimes miss opportunities to extend children's learning in this area.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen children's learning opportunities in understanding of the world, to improve their outcomes in this area of learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children learning in a range of indoor and outdoor activities.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the one of the supervisors.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, other staff and members of the committee.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation and evidence of staff qualifications.
- The inspector held informal discussions with parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Derek Watts

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leaders and staff have high expectations of children's learning and development. Staff continually update their knowledge and skills to improve the provision and outcomes for children. For example, recent training has improved the teaching of phonics (letters and their sounds) to children. Safeguarding is effective. Regular training helps staff keep up to date with requirements. Staff supervise children effectively and follow rigorous safety procedures to help ensure they are safe. Staff routinely review how to recognise children at risk and how to respond to any concerns about children's welfare. The pre-school has good partnerships with local primary schools. This has led to an improvement in school readiness for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff accurately assess children's skills and levels of development. They provide learning activities well suited to children's interests and their different needs. Activities successfully challenge the children. Staff give strong emphasis to developing children's language skills. For example, they read stories, model new words and engage in conversation with them about their learning. Adults provide effective demonstrations and instructions to help children learn. For example, they show children how to apply paint and handle modelling material and tools. Adults use questioning well to check children have understood. Children are successfully encouraged to explore and learn independently.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Leaders and staff have established a positive rapport with the children. Staff know the children very well and effectively support their learning and personal development. Adults are good role models for children promoting kindness, good manners and providing praise and encouragement. Children are confident and eager to 'have a go' at new things. They share and take turns while learning and playing. Children acquire good social skills and an understanding of healthy lifestyles. For example, at morning snack time, they sit together at tables and chairs, pour their drinks independently and share out healthy cereals and fruit. They enjoy fresh air and physical exercise.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop their communication and language skills well. For example, they listen carefully to instructions and talk enthusiastically about their learning. Children choose their favourite books, follow the story and say what happens next. They apply their counting skills to various activities. Two-year-old children recognise two-dimensional shapes. Four-year-old children use language of size. Children handle a range of apparatus and implements with increasing control. For example, in the veterinary role-play area, three-year-old children injected the leopard using a toy syringe to make it better. Children are well prepared for their next stages in learning and for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY397527
Local authority	Swindon
Inspection number	1071200
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	100
Number of children on roll	94
Name of registered person	Highworth Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP902056
Date of previous inspection	3 October 2014
Telephone number	01793766646

Highworth Pre-School has been in existence in various locations since 1967. It registered at its current premises in 2009. It operates from purpose-designed premises on the site of Westrop Primary School, Highworth, Swindon. The pre-school is managed by a voluntary committee and is a registered charity. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-olds. The pre-school opens each weekday during school term time from 8.30am to 3.30pm. Children may attend full time or for flexible sessions. The pre-school has 21 staff who work with the children, of whom, 15 hold early years qualifications to level 3 and three hold qualifications to level 2.

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