

Ilketshall St Lawrence Pre-School



Ilketshall St. Lawrence Primary School, Hogg Lane, Ilketshall St. Lawrence, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 8ND

Inspection date	27 April 2018
Previous inspection date	26 March 2015

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

- Overall, the pre-school provides a very good standard of care and learning for the children who attend. Children are happy, confident and motivated to learn.
- Parents are extremely happy with their child's progress at the pre-school. They talk highly of the support and clear communication they receive from staff. Parents comment that the pre-school is very homely and feels like a family for their children.
- Children make good progress from their individual starting points. Older children make particularly good progress with counting and writing recognisable letters.
- The small staff team works very well together. Staff receive good support from the manager to help them to continue to develop their skills. They watch each other teach and, together, they reflect on the success of the activity.
- Children settle quickly at the pre-school and say goodbye to their parents and carers with confidence. They show secure attachments to the members of staff who have a clear understanding of their individual care needs, such as any allergies.
- Children have many opportunities to learn routines to help them to be ready for school, for example, as they play alongside the older children in the Reception class.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, staff miss opportunities to develop children's thinking to the highest level. An example of this is when they quickly provide a solution to a problem, rather than letting children work it out for themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance teaching skills to the highest level, providing children with more opportunities to reflect, problem solve and extend their thinking skills further.

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 a meeting with the manager and held discussions with the chairperson.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of teaching with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with staff, children and parents during the inspection, and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.

Inspector

Helen Hyett

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager regularly checks children's assessment records to identify any gaps in their learning. She uses this information to make clear plans to help children to catch up. An example of this is when staff identify that some children need more practice to learn about shapes. The manager works with parents to encourage them to help their children find triangle-shaped objects at home and bring them into pre-school. Children enjoy this and excitedly name the 'shape of the week'. Staff have regular meetings with the manager where they discuss any training needs. They have recently attended a course to help them meet children's individual needs, such as understanding autism spectrum disorder. The manager completes a detailed self-evaluation. She has a good understanding of the strengths of the pre-school and areas for future development. Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand how to report any concerns about a child's welfare to the local authority.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified staff are good teachers. They get down to the children's level and join in with their play. Staff enthusiastically share a story about hunting for a bear and encourage children to join in with the words and phrases. There are clear systems in place for observing children, assessing their progress and planning for the next steps in their learning. Staff involve parents very well in children's learning. Parents are appreciative of the detailed updates about their child's progress. Staff post photographs of the pre-school's caterpillars online and encourage parents to share these with their children at home, to support their knowledge of growth and change. Where required, the special educational needs co-ordinator works well with other agencies to devise individual plans for children, such as to develop their personal and social skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave very well. They receive supportive and clear guidance from staff about the rules. Children show good levels of self-esteem. Older children talk about who their friends are and younger children spontaneously give themselves a clap when they complete a task. Children enjoy playing and developing their physical skills in the outdoor area. Even on a rainy day, they have fun riding the tricycles outside, steering around obstacles. Staff plan interesting opportunities for children to learn about the wider world. They create a 'flying carpet' where children pretend to visit different countries.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are interested in activities, engaged in their learning and keen to demonstrate their skills. For example, they eagerly show how they can use their hands to roll a ball shape with the play dough. Older children are able to count to 10 and beyond. They concentrate well as they write the letters in their name. Younger children self-select their own activities. They choose books, turn pages and point out characters in the pictures. Children use their imaginations well. They pretend to make and flip pancakes, describing how they are creating a new 'banana and cucumber flavour'.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY234676
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	1091464
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	17
Name of registered person	Ilketshall St. Lawrence Pre School-Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP520756
Date of previous inspection	26 March 2015
Telephone number	01986 781315

Ilketshall St Lawrence Pre-School registered in 2002. The pre-school employs three members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 12.15pm until 3.15pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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