

Milton Mount Pre-School

Milton Mount Community Centre, Milton Mount Avenue, Pound Hill, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 3DY



Inspection date

3 May 2018

Previous inspection date

16 September 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

- Staff understand the progress the children make and how they can support their development well. They show skill in acting on children's initiated play to help children work towards their next steps in learning.
- Effective partnerships with parents and other early years settings that children attend help staff enable consistency in children's care. For example, they work together to develop good eating routines and to promote good behaviour.
- All children, including those who speak English as an additional language and those who are in receipt of extra funding, make good progress from their starting points.
- Children demonstrate a good understanding of the importance of hygienic routines. For example, they eagerly wash their hands before eating, stating that they 'do not want to get a tummy ache'.
- Managers assess effectively how the pre-school meets the needs of the children and make improvements accordingly. For example, they have used their understanding of how boys' and girls' interests vary to offer appealing activities for all areas of learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently advise parents of ways to continue children's learning at home.
- Children do not have many opportunities to explore and experiment with letters and the sounds they represent.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- offer parents more opportunities to continue children's learning at home
- develop further the provision for preparing children for their future literacy skills, including exploring letters and the sounds they represent.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities inside and outdoors.
- The inspector talked with staff, children and the manager at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation and checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of children's learning and staff practice with the manager.

Inspector

Kerry Lynn

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a confident understanding of how to recognise when a child's welfare is at risk and of what to do when a concern arises. The manager carefully checks staff suitability prior to employment. Managers work in partnership with other professionals to ensure children's welfare. For example, they follow guidance to manage children's medical needs appropriately. The manager reflects well on the effectiveness of the provision, monitors children's progress and continually makes changes to improve the outcomes for children. She monitors staff practice well and carefully considers their professional development needs to supply appropriate training. For example, following a course on how to support children who speak English as an additional language, staff have implemented effective systems to better assess and provide for their developmental needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff show consistently strong teaching skills. They engage well in the play children lead and extend children's ideas effectively. For example, when children fill wheelbarrows with sand, staff introduce mathematics and numeracy into children's play. Staff show skills in adapting activities to meet the differing developmental needs of the children. For instance, they name and repeat words clearly to help children with developing speech to extend their vocabulary. When children are more confident speakers, staff build on this to encourage the use of full sentences and good conversation. Staff promote an understanding of diversity well and teach children about the wider world.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff create a warm and welcoming environment which children come into happily. They have strong relationships with the children and support them well to feel safe and secure. Children operate with confidence and independence. They make choices and recognise their own needs. For example, they help themselves to drinks of water throughout the day. Staff help children to cope with changes that occur, such as moving to school. They follow effective systems to help children understand what happens and to feel familiar with the school. Staff encourage positive behaviour well. They successfully encourage turn taking and sharing, and have clear routines and rules which children understand and follow. For example, children confidently use timers to help them know when it is their turn to use the car they want.

Outcomes for children are good

Children engage intently in their play and continually make discoveries. They eagerly call friends over to show them that they have made a windmill spin. Children investigate and solve problems they encounter in play. For example, they test out techniques to get the sticky mud out of their saucepan when making 'cakes' in the garden. Children learn about numbers. Children show good control over tools, such as paintbrushes, and happily create pictures. They develop skills ready for their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	113602
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1126627
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	36
Number of children on roll	51
Name of registered person	Milton Mount Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP904655
Date of previous inspection	16 September 2015
Telephone number	01293 884312

Milton Mount Pre-School registered in 1992 and operates within Milton Mount Community Centre, which is situated in the Pound Hill area of Crawley, West Sussex. There are seven members of staff, six of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 2 to level 5. The provider is in receipt of funding for early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The pre-school opens from 9.15am to 3.30pm from Monday to Friday, term time only.

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