

Rayleigh Methodist Preschool

78 Eastwood Road, Rayleigh, Essex, SS6 7JP



Inspection date

9 July 2018

Previous inspection date

25 June 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

- The joint managers are committed to providing a warm and welcoming environment where children enjoy their time at the pre-school.
- Staff have close working partnerships with specialist teachers, speech and language therapists and schools. This helps to ensure children, including those who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities, make smooth transition and are well supported in their next stage of learning.
- Staff know their key children well. This enables them to provide activities and interactions that help children make good progress in their development.
- The routine is flexible enough to allow children to continue their play and learning without interruptions. This means they can finish their chosen task to their satisfaction.
- Parents praise the pre-school staff and feel very confident in the care provided.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The key person does not always provide enough information to parents about their children's next steps and how they can guide their child's learning at home.
- Although managers organise meetings with their staff and provide opportunities to discuss any issues that may arise, ongoing performance management is not precisely focused on raising the quality of teaching to a higher level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen performance management systems to support staff to further improve their practice and raise the quality of teaching to an outstanding level
- make information sharing with parents more robust, so they are fully informed of how they can support their child's learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector gathered views from parents.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including children's records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke to both managers, staff and children at appropriate times during the session.
- The inspector observed children as they played indoors and outdoors.

Inspector

Fiona Sapler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The joint managers collaborate well together and work alongside the staff team. This enables them to support staff to effectively meet children's individual learning needs. The managers regularly reflect on their provision. This helps them to review and make continual improvements, such as the reorganisation of the outdoor space to provide a larger area for children to move around safely. Additional funding is used to purchase resources that motivate children to move on in their learning. Safeguarding is effective. The management team put in place stringent measures to ensure only known adults enter the building. Staff are able to demonstrate a good knowledge of what actions to take if they have concerns about children in their care. This includes what to do if children are at risk of extreme views and behaviours.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make regular assessments of what children already know and can do. This enables them to accurately identify any gaps in children's learning. Children play freely between the indoors and outdoors throughout the session. They make choices about their play and independently explore the range of activities on offer. Children learn to appreciate nature. They plant wild flowers and enjoy filling up the tubs with soil and counting out how many scoops of earth they need. Children acquire a wide range of vocabulary. This becomes apparent when staff introduce lots of new words when the children play with the dough. Children describe it as smooth and squishy and know that an implement is another word for a tool.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour is managed well. Staff explain sensitively about taking turns and listening quietly to their friends when they are talking. Parents talk highly of their child's key person and describe how their children look forward to seeing them every day. This indicates strong bonds that support children's well-being. Children play happily together. They make up games in the wooden boat outdoors and thoughtfully share their playdough to make sure everyone has enough. Children know they need to wash their hands before snack and understand they must wear their hats in the strong sunshine to keep themselves well and healthy.

Outcomes for children are good

Children, including those with SEN and/or disabilities, are well equipped for their eventual move on to school. They all make good progress from their starting points and regular and targeted interventions ensure that any gaps are narrowed. Children are learning skills that help prepare them for their future. For example, they pour drinks independently at snack time. Children are confident communicators. They share stories about their families and talk excitedly about the plants they are growing.

Setting details

Unique reference number	203893
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1089888
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	30
Number of children on roll	50
Name of registered person	Rayleigh Methodist Preschool Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP903904
Date of previous inspection	25 June 2015
Telephone number	07910 114403

Rayleigh Methodist Preschool registered in 1981 and is run by a committee. The pre-school employs nine members of staff. The manager and one member staff have a relevant qualification at level 6; two at level 3 and five at level 2. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during school term times. Sessions are from 9.15am until 11.45am, and from 12.30pm until 3pm Tuesday to Friday. A lunch club operates between the morning and afternoon sessions. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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