

Ramsden Preschool

Ramsden Village Hall, Dowsett Lane, Ramsden Heath, Billericay, Essex, CM11 1HX



Inspection date

12 July 2018

Previous inspection date

9 November 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children form exceptionally strong attachments to staff and build extremely positive relationships with their peers. These close attachments help children to feel safe and they grow in confidence and self-assurance.
- Children's behaviour is excellent. Staff praise them for the smallest achievements. Children develop an exceptional enthusiasm for learning. They are highly inquisitive and eager to participate in the exciting and imaginative activities provided.
- Staff have a high regard for each other and work exceptionally well together as a team. Managers and staff observe each other's practice and deliver constructive feedback. This leads to high levels of staff performance and confidence, and has a positive impact on the consistency and quality of teaching.
- Children make exceptional progress in their learning. Staff are swift to identify any gaps in children's learning through their excellent and thorough monitoring systems. They work extremely closely with other professionals to establish the earliest possible interventions so that all children reach their full potential.
- The exceptionally strong management team oversees the smooth running of the pre-school. It seeks the views of parents, staff and children to develop ambitious plans to ensure its aspirations for improvement are speedily implemented.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the excellent provision for celebrating cultural diversity to help children gain an even greater knowledge and understanding of people and communities beyond their immediate experience.

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 carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and spoke to the committee chair, staff and children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by speaking with some of them during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as children's records, evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff, risk assessments, attendance records, policies and procedures.

Inspector

Jennifer Forbes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The dedicated staff team is strongly committed to delivering the highest standards of care and learning for all children. Staff's expectations of themselves and for children's achievements are exceptionally high. Managers monitor the progress of groups of children meticulously to identify any gaps in learning so they can be rectified quickly. Partnerships with parents are exceptionally strong. Staff work exceedingly closely with parents and encourage their involvement in children's learning at home. Staff say they feel extremely well supported and valued. Managers provide extensive opportunities for staff to develop their professional skills through qualifications and an excellent continuous training programme. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are extremely confident in their knowledge of safeguarding and child protection procedures.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff are highly skilled in supporting children's communication and language development. They make excellent use of picture cards and signing to engage with children whose language is still developing. Staff provide exceptionally motivating and challenging activities that spark children's enthusiasm for learning. For example, children weigh ingredients to make cakes. They learn to balance the scales and read recipe instructions through pictures and words. Staff skilfully extend children's vocabulary and promote mathematics through play. For instance, children learn the names of the utensils they are using and count out ingredients using a spoon. This also helps them to develop excellent hand control in readiness for early writing.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children thrive in the enabling outdoor environment. They thoroughly enjoy hunting for bugs and worms with magnifying glasses. Staff teach children to be incredibly gentle as they watch an insect feeding on pollen. Children have excellent opportunities to develop their physical agility. Staff teach them how to manage risks as they learn how to climb safely. Children queue repeatedly and wait their turn patiently to jump down from tall blocks. Children are imaginative. They pretend to cook using soil and water and serve their customers from an imaginary café. Children enjoy relaxing in a dark tent exploring various objects and lights to stimulate their senses. Children have access to resources and teaching that promote understanding of differences in people. Staff are considering how this excellent teaching can be extended even further to enhance children's understanding of the wider world and communities outside of their own experience.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are exceptionally independent. They learn how to butter toast and chop fruit for their snack. They have wonderful opportunities to plant seeds and tend plants they grow. Children learn about letters and sounds, numbers, colours and shapes. They recognise their own name and develop a fascination for writing. Children heartily practise songs for an end-of-term concert and make outstanding progress in readiness for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	203892
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1127353
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	34
Number of children on roll	72
Name of registered person	Ramsden Pre School
Registered person unique reference number	RP523375
Date of previous inspection	9 November 2015
Telephone number	01268 711271

Ramsden Preschool registered in 1964. The pre-school employs 12 members of staff, 10 of whom hold early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school operates from 9.15am until 3.45pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 9.15am until 12.15pm on Tuesdays, and from 9.15am to 12.45pm on Fridays, during school term time only. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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