Dilton Marsh Pre-School



The Mobile, High Street, Dilton Marsh, Westbury, Wiltshire BA13 4DY

Inspection date	17 September 2018
Previous inspection date	16 March 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Good	2 2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- Staff support children to develop good communication and language skills effectively. For example, they encourage children to engage in conversations and give them time to think and respond to questions.
- Staff are friendly and caring, and develop close bonds with children. New children settle quickly into this welcoming pre-school and soon show a strong sense of belonging.
- Partnerships with parents are good. The staff share regular information with parents about their child's development. They give parents ideas for continuing their child's learning at home.
- Staff support children to develop a good understanding of safety. For instance, children learn that you need a warning sign to show when the floor is wet.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager does not make the best use of self-evaluation to identify highly focused priorities for improvement, to enhance future experiences for children.
- The tracking of the progress that different groups of children make is not effectively implemented.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen self-evaluation systems and plan more precise targets for future development to help maintain continuous improvement
- make better use of the tracking information to ensure that different groups of children consistently make the best possible progress and that any gaps in their learning are closing.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with children and staff throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including suitability of staff, policies and procedures and children's learning records.

Inspector

Kelly Sunderland

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff understand their duty to help keep children safe. They have a good understanding of the possible signs of abuse and neglect. Staff know how to refer any concerns they have about a child's welfare. The pre-school implements a range of policies and procedures that underpins their good practice. The manager conducts supervisory meetings regularly with staff to monitor their practice. Recent training has given staff more knowledge on how to support children with the transition to school. Staff work closely with other providers where children also attend to promote continuity in children's learning, and to enable a smooth transition to school. The manager and staff monitor the progress of individual children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff observe children when they play. Overall, they assess what children do well and where they need further support. Staff are experienced and able to identify when to extend activities further to provide children with greater challenge. For instance, children thoroughly enjoy making towers using blocks. Staff extend this activity and encourage children to measure their towers using tape measures. They skilfully encourage children to identify if towers are taller than themselves. Staff confidently promote children's literacy skills through enjoyable activities. For example, children show confidence as they find magnetic letters to spell out their name. Children are proud of their achievements.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children to develop their confidence and self-esteem well. For example, they offer praise and reassurance to children and encourage them to persevere during activities. Children behave well. They share and take turns with each other. Children play cooperatively together and show good social skills. Children learn the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle. They spend lots of time being physically active while exploring the stimulating outdoor play areas. Children develop good independence skills as they confidently select resources and get themselves ready to go outside to play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress across all areas of learning, including those children who speak English as an additional language. Children are keen to take part in mark-making tasks. For example, they use large chalks on the floor outside to draw pictures and use notepads to make marks as they play. Children show good levels of concentration and engagement in activities. They acquire skills to support them with the next stage in their learning and their eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number 145858
Local authority Wiltshire
Inspection number 10066861
Type of provision Full day care

RegistersEarly Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Day care typeChildcare on non-domestic premises

Age range of children 2 - 4

Total number of places 24

Number of children on roll 14

Name of registered person Dilton Marsh Pre-School Committee

Registered person unique

reference number

RP911135

Date of previous inspection 16 March 2016 **Telephone number** 01373 826693

Dilton Marsh Pre-School opened in 1983 and operates from a mobile classroom in the grounds of Dilton Marsh Primary School. It opens five days a week from 8.45am to 2.45pm, term time only. The setting is in receipt of funding for the provision of early education for children aged three and four years. The two members of staff who work with the children hold childcare qualifications at level 3.

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