

Little Willows Pre-School



Whitnash Primary School, Langley Road, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire
CV31 2EX

Inspection date	5 October 2018
Previous inspection date	20 June 2014

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

- Strong leadership and commitment from staff leads to continuous improvement and has enabled the pre-school to maintain a good provision for children. The manager provides staff with effective support to extend further their good teaching. Recent training has helped them to provide in-depth focus for each child's preferred way to learn.
- Staff are skilled in helping all children to make good progress from their starting points. They plan interesting activities that successfully engage and extend children's interests and skills. Staff provide individual learning plans to ensure that each child's needs are targeted well, including children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- Staff provide children with an exciting range of activities to help them to express their creative ideas. Children eagerly throw powdered paints and show excitement in the interesting effects created. They closely observe the movement of snails and record this in various ways, such as collage, painting and drawings.
- Staff support children's behaviour consistently well. Children learn to manage their feelings and behaviour successfully. They gain good levels of control when they need to take turns, and tolerate delay. They develop good social skills, form close friendships and play together happily.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not organise some routines as well as possible to maximise children's learning opportunities throughout the day.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review and enhance the organisation of some routines to provide the best possible learning opportunities for children throughout the day.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practices and the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff, children and parents.
- The inspector read some of the setting's documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector sampled children's development information and records.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the manager.

Inspector

Anne Clift

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff are aware of child protection issues and the procedure to follow if they have a concern about a child's welfare. They are vigilant and supervise children well. Staff take effective actions to manage and report accidents children have. They make good use of risk assessments to keep children safe. The manager reviews the provision closely and identifies areas for further development. For example, she is working with staff to adapt children's learning environment. The manager monitors the quality of teaching, learning and assessment thoroughly and uses this information to allocate additional funding effectively. Staff work closely with parents and health professionals involved in children's development. This helps to provide continuity in children's care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff assess children's achievements accurately and closely track the progress they make. They support children's communication and language skilfully. For instance, they carefully adjust their use of language to ensure that it challenges children's individual stage of development successfully. Children listen attentively and respond to various forms of communication, such as visual prompts and sign language. Staff provide children with a good range of opportunities to practise their literacy skills. Children enjoy exploring characters and scenes from stories and give meaning to their writing. They confidently use technology, such as giving commands to remote-controlled toys and manipulating effects on interactive software.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are supportive, nurturing and know children and their families well. Children develop secure and trusting relationships with them. Children explore their emotions and seek stimulation or comfort in the well-planned areas of the pre-school. For example, they enjoy quieter, relaxing areas and activities, as well as energetic play. They respond well to the praise they receive for their achievements and develop their confidence and self-esteem. Children learn about making healthy food choices and good hygiene.

Outcomes for children are good

Children have positive attitudes to learning and are well prepared for school. They make confident choices in their play, explore enthusiastically and make new discoveries. They are inventive and use materials they have found to build drums and other percussion instruments. Children gain good levels of independence. They learn to manage their personal needs and are keen to help with tasks, such as pouring drinks, and washing their plates after meals. Children practise their physical skills. They concentrate as they carefully use knives to chop vegetables and shape clay, and they ride bikes energetically.

Setting details

Unique reference number	200674
Local authority	Warwickshire
Inspection number	10069046
Type of provision	Sessional day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	34
Number of children on roll	73
Name of registered person	Little Willows Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP518250
Date of previous inspection	20 June 2014
Telephone number	01926 425225

Little Willows Pre-School registered in 1998. The provider employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold relevant early years qualifications at level 6, six at level 3 and one at level 2. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday during school term times. Sessions run from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday and 8am to 4.30pm on Fridays. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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