

Micheldever and Stratton Preschool

East Stratton Village Hall, Winchester, Hampshire SO21 3DT



Inspection date	10 October 2018
Previous inspection date	30 June 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The provider has not informed Ofsted that there has been a change of manager at the pre-school. This is a breach of requirements. However, this does not have a significant impact on the children's safety and well-being as suitability checks have been conducted.
- Staff are slow to communicate with other childcare settings that children attend, to provide a consistent approach to children's care.
- Staff complete some tasks for children that they are perfectly capable of attempting for themselves.
- At times, staff unnecessarily interrupt children's play to remind them about the importance of following daily routines. Occasionally, this causes minor frustration.
- The self-evaluation process does not robustly identify all areas for improvement, to help staff to continue to raise standards.

It has the following strengths

- Staff provide children with plenty of chances to access different types of technology. Children enhance their speaking skills. They ask staff questions about how different resources work and discuss reasons why battery-powered toys stop operating.
- All staff greet children with warmth and enthusiasm. Staff help new children settle quickly. They encourage children to choose the toys that they would most like to play with.
- Staff target additional funding well to ensure it has a positive impact on children's development. All children make good rates of progress in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
improve knowledge and understanding of when to notify Ofsted of any changes, such as to the manager.	24/10/2018

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

- strengthen links with other providers that share the care of children, to provide a more consistent approach to their care and development
- provide more opportunities for all children to develop their independence skills, such as to complete simple tasks for themselves
- improve opportunities for children to explore activities without interruption so they can complete tasks to their satisfaction
- develop self-evaluation to ensure it accurately identifies weaknesses and to make sure the setting meets all legal requirements.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with parents about how staff involve them in their children's learning.
- The inspector observed staff working with children across the setting.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager.
- The inspector and the manager evaluated an adult-led activity.
- The inspector spoke with key staff about how they plan suitable activities for children.

Inspector

Julie Bruce

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management requires improvement

The provider does not have a clear understanding of the changes that must be notified to Ofsted. They have not communicated that there is a new manager in place. However, the provider does carry out satisfactory recruitment checks to make sure that all staff, including the manager, are suitable for their role. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a thorough knowledge of the signs that indicate children may be at risk. The designated safeguarding lead frequently tests staff's understanding of child protection issues. For example, she presents staff with possible child-protection scenarios and staff are tasked with deciding how they would respond to keep children safe. The manager has made some improvements since she was appointed. However, she has not identified that there is a delay in contacting providers that share the care of children, to foster a joined-up approach and support for children's development. Nevertheless, staff work well with support agencies, such as speech and language therapists, to help develop children's communication skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff maintain positive partnerships with parents. They continually talk with parents about children's learning, as well as to address any areas of concern. Staff offer children plenty of chances to learn about nature. For example, they encourage children to use binoculars and to hunt for plants and insects, as part of their learning experience. Children practise their early writing skills and record details of the creatures they find. Staff extend children's learning further, such as when they read nature books with them to develop their interest in the world around them. Staff are precise in their assessments of children's progress. They update children's next steps regularly, and all children attain well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Staff do not consistently promote children's independence skills, such as when they chop food for them. They sometimes intervene when children are engaged in play to prompt them to carry out other activities, although the effect on their concentration is minimal. Staff use effective methods to promote good behaviour and to encourage children to be kind to each other. For example, they encourage them to share, and to resolve disputes quickly. Children are kind and they care about the feelings of their friends. Recently, staff have learned how to teach children relaxation techniques. Staff make the most of new learning and share their knowledge with colleagues.

Outcomes for children are good

Children carefully use scissors to cut out shapes, and experiment with colour. They describe the feeling of different textures on their hands. Children hone new skills that prepare them for their move on to school. They develop mathematical skills. For instance, older children compare the size of different objects and younger children count the number of items on a tray.

Setting details

Unique reference number	110389
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10063290
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	24
Number of children on roll	19
Name of registered person	Micheldever and Stratton Pre School Group Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP524582
Date of previous inspection	30 June 2016
Telephone number	07792 800979

Micheldever and Stratton Preschool registered in 1999. It is located in East Stratton, in Winchester, Hampshire. The pre-school operates Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions run from 9am until 12.30pm on Monday and Friday, and from 9am until 3pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. There are three members of staff working with children. Of these, one member of staff holds a childcare qualification at level 4 and two members of staff hold qualifications at level 3. The pre-school provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance *Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted*, which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

