

Rainbow Pre-School

Community Centre, Old Road, Handforth, Cheshire SK9 3AZ



Inspection date	24 October 2018
Previous inspection date	9 February 2016

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

- The very well-qualified staff provide regular interaction and encouragement to all children. A well-balanced range of experiences is provided indoors and outside.
- Staff place a strong emphasis on supporting children's communication and language development. All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, are progressing well across all areas of learning.
- Children are happy and settled in the pre-school. They form trusting relationships with caring and attentive staff. The key-person system is effective and supports children's emotional well-being.
- Staff monitor children's progress to identify and address any gaps in their learning. Children make good progress during their time at the pre-school. They are developing the skills required to ensure they are ready to move on to school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times staff omit to extend questioning to allow children to think through their own ideas and resolve problems for themselves.
- Group activities are not always planned effectively enough to differentiate between the different ages of children within the group.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- further develop children's critical thinking and problem solving by extending questioning techniques used by staff
- take a more consistent approach when differentiating between different ages and abilities of children during large-group time activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outside. She assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager of the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to staff and held a meeting with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, and checked evidence of the suitability of staff and committee members working within in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to children and a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector
Rachel Strutt

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have up-to-date safeguarding training and have a clear knowledge of the procedures to follow to keep children safe in their care. There are appropriate recruitment and vetting procedures that help to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. The management team and staff are well qualified and understand their responsibilities fully. The manager has an action plan for further improvements which take into account the views of staff and parents when planning changes. Staff seek to extend their already good knowledge through access to continued professional development. This is fully supported by the management team.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The play and learning environment is well planned and supports all areas of learning for children at the pre-school. Staff share the children's daily experiences with parents. This helps to continue children's learning at home. Children enjoy listening to stories and finding hidden animals in a tray of shredded paper. They excitedly delight in making animal noises. Observation, assessment and planning arrangements are good. All staff members contribute to the planning of children's learning in monthly staff meetings. This ensures individualised learning for each child is planned for and monitored.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are developing good independence skills as they access the different areas used at the pre-school. Older children enjoy helping to tidy away toys and are responsible for their own personal hygiene needs. Children regularly access the outdoor area, showing good physical skills with the variety of resources and activities on offer. They enjoy the fresh air and exercise. Children's behaviour is good and they are starting to build close friendship groups.

Outcomes for children are good

Children talk to visitors, showing that they are self-assured and confident at the pre-school. All children make good progress from their starting points. Children enjoy playing traffic light games and understanding when to go, get ready and when to stop as they move around on their scooters, supporting their understanding of the world. The pre-school children show engagement in a range of activities. For example, while exploring the dough they use good mathematical language, naming shapes as they create. They show good concentration skills while making cakes in the dough and completing jigsaws.

Setting details

Unique reference number	305261
Local authority	Cheshire East
Inspection number	10072802
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	40
Number of children on roll	38
Name of registered person	Rainbow Pre-School (Handforth) Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP524505
Date of previous inspection	9 February 2016
Telephone number	01625 543518

Rainbow Pre-School registered in 1963 and is open five mornings a week, during term time only, from 9.15am to 12.15pm. On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons it is open from 12.15pm to 3.15pm. The pre-school employs seven members of staff, all of whom hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 or above.

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