Gingerbread Pre-School

Ofsted raising standards improving lives

The Bakers Hall, Crossfield Way, Frinton On Sea CO13 0LL

Inspection date Previous inspection date	6 November 20 8 November 20		
The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Requires improvement	2 3
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 quickly identify children whose achievements are below what is expected for their age. They work very well with parents and other professionals to help to support these children. This helps to make sure children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities make good progress given their capabilities.
- Children's physical development is very well supported. They have lots of opportunities to practise balancing, climbing, running and jumping in the well resourced outdoor area.
- The manager and staff are positive role models. They help the children to consider the feelings and emotions of others, to support them to manage their behaviour appropriately. Consequently, the atmosphere in the pre-school is calm and friendly.
- Children develop strong emotional bonds with their key person and all members of staff. Children are given lots of reassurance and cuddles to help them settle in to the pre-school in their own time.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager has not yet explored a wide range of performance management opportunities that aim to raise the quality of teaching to the very highest levels.
- Staff sometimes overlook opportunities to extend children's thinking skills to the highest levels.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore a wider range of performance management opportunities that are sharply focused on raising the quality of teaching to an outstanding level
- focus even more precisely on extending children's learning to help them make even more rapid progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching in the indoor and outdoor environments and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager and sampled a range of documentation, including evidence of the suitability of staff working at the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation of a teaching activity with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents.

Inspector Jemma Hudson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager has addressed the actions from the last inspection. She demonstrates a very good understanding of the requirement to notify Ofsted of any changes that affect the pre-school. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are well trained in the procedures to safeguard children. They know the possible signs and symptoms to be aware of that could give concerns about a child's welfare. Staff are deployed well. Children are supervised effectively, including when they play outside; this helps to keep children safe. Risk assessments are used well. Staff teach children how to manage their own risks. For example, they support children to lift and carry equipment carefully and safely. The manager evaluates the nursery well and is able to identify areas to develop to further enhance practice. Feedback from parents is positive.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff carry out good observations of children's play and assess children's development accurately. They carefully plan children's next steps so that these meet each child's needs. Staff provide children with good opportunities to develop their creativity. For example, they use a range of paints to create firework pictures. Children's understanding of the wider world is well supported. Staff provide role play resources, such as different types of clothing, to enable children to explore a range of cultures and traditions. This helps children to develop their understanding of how they are similar to, and different from, each other.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are well supported as they settle at the pre-school. The manager and staff collect key information about a children's interests and individual needs when they first start. Staff use this information to plan a welcoming and stimulating environment that helps children to settle rapidly. Children learn how to keep themselves healthy. Staff provide children with a selection of healthy snacks during the session. Children's independence is fostered well as they take care of their personal hygiene in preparation for snack. Staff talk to children about the importance of exercise and encourage them to feel their heart beating after they have been playing a game of 'chase'.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make at least expected progress, given their starting points and capabilities. Staff use practical activities, such as making dough, to support children's mathematical development. For example, children recognise numbers on the recipe card and count as they spoon salt into the bowl. Children clearly have fun and genuinely enjoy the warm interactions with staff. They gain valuable skills for their future learning, including their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY466924
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10079470
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	8
Name of registered person	Gingerbread Pre-School
Registered person unique reference number	RP909693
Date of previous inspection	8 November 2017
Telephone number	01255 852961

Gingerbread Pre-School registered in 2013. It is managed by a board of trustees as a charitable setting. The pre-school employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 5, one at level 3 and one at level 2. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday from 8.50am until 12.50pm, during school term time.

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.

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