

Brookside Pre-school

Gusford School Grounds, Sheldrake Drive, Ipswich, Suffolk IP2 9LQ



Inspection date	18 January 2019
Previous inspection date	21 March 2018

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

This provision is good

- Since the last inspection, the management committee has reviewed the procedures for recruiting new members and makes sure all those involved with the pre-school complete the required suitability checks. This helps to ensure children's safety.
- The effective organisation of resources helps children to manage tasks with high levels of independence, such as pouring drinks, preparing and serving food and putting on clothing. This helps to stand them in good stead for their eventual move to school.
- Staff are very considerate of children's individual needs and take time get to know them very well. They work particularly closely with parents to make sure all necessary steps are taken to meet children's specific dietary needs.
- Staff establish good relationships with a range of external agencies, giving full regard to their advice and expertise in order to provide effective support for children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- Teaching is not always highly responsive to the differing levels of engagement of the youngest children. For example, there is scope to enhance younger children's involvement and deepen their thinking skills during some adult-led activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance younger children's engagement in some adult-led activities and extend their ability to participate even more actively in the experiences.

Inspection activities

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

Inspector

Sarah Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All staff have a very secure knowledge of how to recognise when a child is at risk of harm. They follow robust procedures to protect children's welfare. Continual professional development is encouraged by the management. Staff are supported to advance their skills and qualifications in order to help improve their practice. For example, staff attend specific training to expand their understanding of teaching children new mathematical skills. The pre-school manager and staff evaluate the provision effectively. They regularly seek the views of parents to help identify further areas of practice to improve upon. All the recommendations raised at the last inspection have been successfully met and there is a strong shared commitment to sustaining the good outcomes for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff skilfully build on children's interests and adapt activities to bring in new ideas and learning. For example, when children show an interest in identifying the shapes they see on the computer, staff build successfully on this by leading a hunt for objects of a similar shape. Older children capably use writing tools to keep a written record of the shapes they find. This helps to foster their early literacy skills well. Children particularly enjoy outdoor play where they explore and use their imaginations with a variety of inspiring resources. For example, staff encourage them to explore some ice in the purpose-made outdoor kitchen and prompt them to think about how the ice might change over time. A good range of equipment helps to motivate children's physical movement and energetic play. They follow instructions well. For example, they listen carefully while staff show them how to adjust their movements and refine their aim to throw a basketball into a hoop.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff foster strong relationships with children and have a secure knowledge of their specific behavioural and healthcare needs. This helps children settle quickly and supports their emotional well-being. Children learn about acceptable behaviour and are encouraged to share, take turns and treat each other with care and respect. Staff praise good behaviour and any minor issues are quickly resolved through discussion and redirecting younger children's attention. Staff are mindful to monitor the contents of lunches provided by parents. This helps to ensure children's dietary health is fostered well and any risk to those with allergies is carefully minimised.

Outcomes for children are good

All children acquire a wide range of skills in readiness for school. They are confident communicators and express their ideas readily. For example, groups of boys use their developing vocabulary to imaginatively describe where they are flying their model aeroplanes. All children, including those in receipt of early years pupil premium funding, make good progress in their personal skills. For example, they confidently manage their toileting needs and show a strong determination to tackle buttons and zips on their clothing. Children show that they are motivated to learn and discover how things work.

Setting details

Unique reference number	251427
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	10084832
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	2 - 10
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	89
Name of registered person	Brookside Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP523478
Date of previous inspection	21 March 2018
Telephone number	01473604238 or 07956 254213

Brookside Pre-school registered in 1987. It employs seven members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications ranging from level 2 to level 6. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 8.45am to 3.15pm. The pre-school also provides out-of-school care. An after-school club runs from 3.30pm to 6pm during term time and a holiday club runs on weekdays during school holidays from 8.30am to 4.30pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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