

The Children's Workshop



Methodist Church Centre, Manor Road, East Molesey, Surrey KT8 9JU

Inspection date	4 March 2019
Previous inspection date	8 March 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The highly experienced and inspirational leadership team is deeply committed to the ongoing development of the pre-school. Its meticulous self-evaluation is sharply focused to consistently enhance the learning opportunities available for all children.
- The leadership team has developed exceptional relationships with local schools and settings that children attend. Teachers comment on children's 'confidence and enthusiasm' when they join their schools.
- The quality of teaching is outstanding. The pre-school is vibrant and stimulating, and enables children to follow their own interests. Staff plan exciting activities that capture children's curiosity and support them to become self-motivated and inquisitive learners.
- Children develop an excellent understanding of nature and the world around them. For instance, they delight in learning about fruit, excitedly describing the textures of pineapples and the smell of mangoes. Children talk animatedly about their own experiences of picking fruit and eagerly share their stories with friends.
- Staff provide excellent support for children with special educational needs and those learning English as an additional language. They work closely with parents and a wide range of professionals to meet children's individual needs extremely well. This contributes to the excellent progress that children make.
- Children are extremely well supported to develop physical skills and be active. For example, they demonstrate high levels of self-control as they practise yoga positions and learn to move their bodies with purpose.
- Parents speak incredibly highly of the manager and her staff team. They compliment the exceptional support that their children receive and praise the 'passionate and experienced staff'. Parents are full of praise for the detailed communication they receive about their children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop the already excellent teaching to help children develop their problem-solving skills, such as in the outdoor area, even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact that this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke with parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector met with the manager to look at a range of documentation, including policies, staff records, self-evaluation, recruitment and training procedures, and safeguarding procedures.

Inspector

Nicola Edwards

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The leadership team has developed rigorous safeguarding procedures to ensure that children's safety is paramount. Staff have a comprehensive knowledge of what to do if they have a concern about a child's welfare or safety. The leadership team has implemented robust procedures for recruitment, induction and training to ensure the ongoing suitability of staff. It has developed extremely effective systems to monitor staff performance, including supervision programmes to continually raise the quality of teaching. For instance, it has identified opportunities to raise the quality of teaching outdoors even further. Staff are offered excellent opportunities to attend training to develop their professional knowledge. Systems to monitor children's development are extremely effective and ensure that all children make rapid progress from their starting points. Children's progress is monitored with excellent attention to detail to ensure that gaps in learning are quickly closed.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff use their excellent knowledge of children's learning and development to plan a wealth of activities to ignite their interests. Staff are skilled at listening to children's ideas and asking them questions to stretch their knowledge and understanding. Children have excellent opportunities to be creative. For instance, they delight in mixing different coloured paints in salad spinners to make their own marbled images. They confidently identify colours and discuss concepts of speed. For example, children explore what happens to the paint when they move the spinner 'fast' and 'slow'. Children are offered inspiring opportunities to learn about music. For instance, children are mesmerised as they listen to the organ and explore the lengths and tones of musical notes. Younger children enthusiastically learn the actions to new songs played on the guitar.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Settling-in arrangements are sensitive and value the individual needs of children. Children are supported to develop exceptional emotional attachments to their key person and quickly settle into the setting. Staff have high expectations of all children. They have an excellent knowledge of the children in their care and engage them extremely well in play and activities. Children behave exceptionally well and are incredibly polite, kind and respectful to their friends and visitors. Children demonstrate high levels of perseverance. For instance, they pursue new skills with enthusiasm for sustained lengths of time until they complete them independently with confidence. Children have high levels of confidence and self-esteem. Opportunities to learn about different cultures and festivals are plentiful. For example, parents visit to talk about their home cultures and traditions, and children enjoy sharing stories about different communities.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are highly engaged and independent, and they are extremely well prepared for the next steps in their learning. Children develop excellent literacy skills. For example, older children confidently use story stones to create their own stories to share with friends. Younger children are self-motivated to write familiar letters, such as using tools in sand trays.

Setting details

Unique reference number	122593
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	10066282
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	3 - 4
Total number of places	68
Number of children on roll	75
Name of registered person	Tait, Joan Christina
Registered person unique reference number	RP512001
Date of previous inspection	8 March 2016
Telephone number	0208 979 0692 (am)

The Children's Workshop registered in 1970. The pre-school is situated in East Molesey, Surrey. It is open each weekday during school term times from 8.30am to 2pm. The provider employs 19 members of staff, 18 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. There are two staff who hold qualified teacher status. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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