

Grasshopper Club

The Old School House, Mount Pleasant, Castle Donington, DERBY DE74 2LN



Inspection date	14 March 2019
Previous inspection date	5 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff are excellent role models to children. Children behave extremely well and have positive attitudes towards others.
- Partnerships with parents are outstanding. Staff are dedicated and aspire to offer the best for children and their families. Parents speak extremely positively about the pre-school. They feel very welcome and involved in their children's experiences.
- The provision for outdoor learning is particularly strong. Staff provide a well-resourced, stimulating environment to support children of all ages to learn independently. Children are active outdoors each day in the exceptionally well-organised area. This supports their development well across all areas of the curriculum.
- The pre-school has strong, well-established links with the community. Staff develop professional relationships with other providers, including the local schools. They regularly exchange information, which helps to ensure that there is consistency and continuity for children's care and learning.
- The highly qualified staff team carefully observes and assesses children's learning. Staff use this information to identify any gaps in children's development and implement effective next step learning targets with parents.
- Staff are deployed well and supervise children closely, supporting them to take manageable risks in their play.
- Professional development is not sufficiently focused on raising the quality of teaching to a consistently high level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the current arrangements for performance management of the staff to help promote the quality of teaching to the highest level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection. She discussed children's learning and their progress with key persons, including their next steps and interests.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the leadership team. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Dawn Barlow

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager places a strong emphasis on ensuring all staff understand child protection procedures. Staff receive regular training and updates about child protection and wider safeguarding issues. They work hard to engage parents continually in their children's learning. Staff provide regular information to parents about how their children are progressing and what they need to learn next. The manager makes sure that the views of the staff, parents and children are included in the self-evaluation processes of the nursery. This helps to identify targets for further improvement that will benefit all children. The manager closely monitors the progress of groups of children and individuals. She works with staff to identify if children need additional support. The manager makes good use of extra funding to provide specific activities that support children's individual learning and development needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is strong and helps to prepare children for the next stage in their learning, including school. Staff make effective use of what they know about children's interests and learning styles to support their planning. They know the children in their care exceptionally well and talk confidently about where children are in their learning and development. Staff confidently support children's communication and language skills during planned activities when they use descriptive language. In the farm shop, children explore different fruit and vegetables using their senses. They smell lemons and describe the small seeds they find in the butternut squash. Children enthusiastically join in with others during singing and play rhythms on the outdoor music wall. Staff expertly help children to recall things they have already learned and to apply their knowledge in new situations.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are very happy and settled and demonstrate high levels of positive self-esteem and confidence. Before children start, staff work closely with parents to share and obtain a wealth of information. This helps them to work together to support children's care and learning from the start. The pre-school environment is exceptionally well planned to help children make choices, select resources and extend their own learning. Children work extremely well together, make choices and are familiar with the daily routines. Staff show they have high expectations of children and provide clear guidance about what is acceptable behaviour. Staff celebrate the achievements that children make. They help children to learn about the importance of exercise and how to keep themselves safe.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their development and acquire the key skills they need for their next stage in learning. They are confident and curious learners. Children develop good physical skills as they climb, balance and gain good coordination. Older children develop their emerging reading and mathematical skills as they learn to recognise number symbols and letters in the environment.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY360499
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	10073988
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	81
Name of registered person	Grasshopper Club Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP902052
Date of previous inspection	5 February 2016
Telephone number	01332 858216

Grasshopper Club registered in 2007 and is situated in Castle Donington, Derby. The pre-school opens from 9am until 4.30pm, Monday to Friday, during term time only. It employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 6 and four hold level 3. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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