

Sunflower Maunds

Parringdon Road, Harlow, Essex CM18 7RG



Inspection date	27 March 2019
Previous inspection date	4 November 2015

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

This provision is good

- The manager and her staff are enthusiastic and work well together as part of a friendly and motivated team. There is an ongoing commitment to raising standards and delivery of the highest quality provision for children and their families.
- Staff accurately assess the level of children's skills, knowledge and understanding on entry to the pre-school. They plan effectively to build on children's interests and skills to ensure they make good progress.
- Staff are very caring and build strong bonds with all children, to support their emotional well-being effectively. Children, including the youngest, settle quickly and are happy, confident and eager to learn.
- Children behave well. Staff are good role models and support older children in learning how to respect and value the differing needs of their friends. This helps children to gain skills that prepare them well for their future learning, including their move to school.
- The manager and her staff establish strong relationships with children and their families. Parents are very positive about the care and consideration staff show towards their children. They are well informed about the progress their children make and ways in which they can help them.
- 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 do not always fully support active learning across all areas of development for those children who prefer to play and learn outdoors.

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
- extend opportunities even further in the outdoor environment to support active learning across all areas of development for those children who prefer to learn outdoors.

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.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Clair Stockings

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

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. The manager evaluates the pre-school well and is able to identify areas to develop to further enhance practice. Staff share ideas and contribute well to future developments through regular staff meetings. Feedback from parents is positive. The manager systematically analyses the progress made by different groups of children, for example those who receive additional funding, to ensure they are all well supported in their learning.

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 promote children's listening and communication development well. For example, they support children to use new words as they share many different stories, songs and rhymes throughout the session. Staff facilitate conversations and listen to children's views with interest. Children express their ideas and take turns to talk. Staff make good use of opportunities to incorporate mathematical learning. For example, during craft activities, they support children to count and recognise colours and shapes. Staff share information on children's learning and development with parents to support and encourage them to continue their children's learning at home.

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 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. Staff make good use of praise and encouragement to help children to listen and develop a respect for each other. Children are eager to participate and display good behaviour and social skills. Staff promote children's awareness of healthy lifestyles and good hygiene procedures. For example, they 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. Children have many opportunities for physical activity indoors and outdoors.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make at least expected progress, given their starting points and capabilities. Children are curious learners and are keen to take part in activities. They learn to follow expectations, for example when sitting together as a whole group to take part in activities. Children explore how to create pictures using different materials to help develop their imagination and thinking. 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	EY420530
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10063015
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 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	14
Name of registered person	Great Parndon Community Association
Registered person unique reference number	RP910034
Date of previous inspection	4 November 2015
Telephone number	01279 866386

Sunflower Maunds registered in 2011. The pre-school employs three members of staff, all of whom hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9am until midday.

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