

TMA Helping Hands Pre School

2 Church Hill, Two Mile Ash, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire MK8 8EQ



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

3 May 2019

20 September 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

- Children arrive happily and are eager to join in activities of their choosing as well as those organised by the staff.
- The enthusiastic manager leads the motivated staff team. Staff are proud of their roles and responsibilities within the pre-school. They feel supported and valued.
- Staff successfully help children to develop confidence in skills for the future, such as reading and writing.
- Staff closely assess children's progress to quickly identify where they are below expectations for their age, so tailored support can be given to raise and maintain consistent progress.
- Children behave well. They play cooperatively together and show respect towards one another. The staff's consistent praise and encouragement help children to develop confidence and support positive attitudes to their learning.
- The manager encourages reflective practice and values the views of children, parents and staff. The pre-school has made significant improvements since the last inspection to benefit the children.
- Sometimes, staff do not make the most of opportunities to challenge the most able children's learning, to help strengthen their existing good progress.
- Occasionally, staff do not fully extend learning experiences for those children who enjoy playing outside.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen existing good teaching skills to challenge the most able children's learning
- build on opportunities for those children who enjoy learning and playing outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the play hall and garden.
- The inspector held discussions with children, parents, chair of the committee and staff.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at observation files, monitoring systems and a selection of policies and children's records.

Inspector
Kim Mundy

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The enthusiastic and well-organised managers lead the dedicated staff team effectively. Everyone is fully aware of their role and responsibilities, and staff feel supported and valued. They have good opportunities to develop their knowledge and skills. For example, they attend training courses and discuss practice during meetings and appraisals with the manager. The manager closely observes staff's teaching practices and she gives useful feedback to help them to consistently develop their good teaching skills. Partnerships with parents are good. Parents are very complimentary about the staff's teaching abilities, the information shared about their child's good progress and ideas for home learning. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have a good understanding of local safeguarding procedures to protect children. Rigorous staff recruitment and the close monitoring of children's attendance also support effective safeguarding practices.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children really well and they plan for their individual interests. They successfully use various teaching methods, such as questioning, demonstrating and facilitating, which help children to focus and achieve. Managers value the staff's individual skills and encourage them to put these into practice to further support the children's learning. Children make good progress in literacy. For example, they have fun joining in a pre-writing activity as they recall a story, sing songs and make finger patterns in foam. There is a strong focus on helping children to develop good speaking and listening skills. They join in worthwhile discussion times and listen attentively to stories. Children are creative and they use their imaginations as they join in role play and art and craft activities. Staff provide opportunities for children to learn about living things, such as growing vegetables and observing life cycles.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

There is a strong emphasis on children's emotional well-being and helping them to happily separate from parents when they start. The staff consistently encourage children to develop confidence and support positive attitudes to their learning. Children learn about the importance of eating healthy foods and follow good personal hygiene routines. Children develop a good awareness of multicultural Britain. They find out about other people's beliefs as they celebrate festivals, such as Holi. Staff carry out thorough risk assessments and teach children how to keep safe. For example, children know they must wear a safety helmet when riding tricycles and learn to handle tools safely, such as toy saws in the builder's yard.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those in receipt of funding, make good progress from their starting points. They learn to count and recognise colours, numbers and shapes. Children develop good practical skills that help prepare them for school. This is illustrated as they dress, select resources and cut up fruit. Children listen and recall conversations, and learn new words, such as 'oxygen' as they discuss the importance of exercise and keeping healthy. Staff help children to prepare well for the next stage in their education.

Setting details

Unique reference number	141824
Local authority	Milton Keynes
Inspection number	10080499
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 - 4
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	31
Name of registered person	Helping Hands Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP902185
Date of previous inspection	20 September 2018
Telephone number	07749 537 718

TMA Helping Hands Pre School registered in 1999. It is located in Milton Keynes. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday from 9.20am until 3.20pm, during term time only. It is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children age two, three and four years, and the early years pupil premium. The provider employs eight members of staff and all staff hold a relevant qualification at level 2 or above.

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