

Willows

Scouts Hut, Brickfield Lane, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh SO53 4DP



Inspection date	15 May 2019
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Not applicable	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

- Staff make regular and precise assessments of children's learning. They use this information to plan well-thought-out activities which meet the individual needs and interests of children. As a result, all children make good progress.
- Support for children with identified delays in their learning is addressed at the earliest possible stage to help them make progress and catch up with their peers.
- The manager and staff use evaluation to continuously make improvements. For example, they regularly adapt the layout of the room and resources to ensure they meet the needs and interests of children.
- Children enjoy their time at the setting. Staff build warm, close relationships with them, which helps children to grow in confidence and feel settled and secure.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Staff exchange information with parents daily, to enable them to be fully aware of children's activities and to provide continuity of care.
- Parents comment how happy they are with the warm and welcoming environment that is provided, as well as the positive relationships staff have with them and their children.
- At times, staff do not extend children's learning to the highest possible level. For example, they do not always allow children enough time to think for themselves and respond when being asked questions.
- The manager and staff have not prioritised training to further enhance their knowledge and understanding of how they can support and enrich children's learning experiences even further than they already do.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support children to extend their learning even further by ensuring staff interactions are consistently good or better
- make best use of training opportunities, with particular focus on enhancing the knowledge and skills of staff and how they can extend children's learning experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching both inside and outside.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including policies and procedures, staff suitability checks and records of children's progress.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took their views into account.
- The inspector spoke to children, staff and the manager throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the pre-school manager.

Inspector

Kelly Marchmont

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The staff and manager have a thorough knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse and know what procedures to follow should concerns arise. The manager evaluates the provision regularly and accurately. She is able to identify what works well and what areas need to improve. Regular appraisals and staff supervision help the manager to monitor staff performance and support their ongoing professional development. Partnerships with external agencies involved with children are positive, which means children have continuity in the support that is provided. Effective links have been established with local schools to help smooth transitions for children who are due to start school. The manager monitors gaps in children's progress, including different groups of children. She also targets these identified areas to ensure any gaps are reduced promptly.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Assessments of children's progress and starting points are accurate. Starting points are identified promptly to ensure children make meaningful progress and are well supported from the beginning. The key-person system works extremely well. This is because staff know many aspects of the children's lives and experiences. Activities provided are challenging, and children remain interested and engaged. Staff demonstrate that they are able to pick up on cues and keep children interested. For example, when a bubble machine stopped working this was swiftly identified and staff problem solved with children to resolve the issue. Once resolved, children squealed with delight when the bubbles started to appear once more.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well. They understand what is expected of them and show each other kindness and courtesy. Staff are warm and welcoming and ensure children settle when they are new to the pre-school. Children have strong bonds and attachments to all staff. Practitioners encourage children to manage their own feelings and maintain the clear expectations of behaviour. For instance, children independently form a line when waiting to use the swing. They use the timer effectively and know when their turn has finished and when it is someone else's go, without any adult support.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are happy, engaged and eager to acquire the skills they need for their move to school. Children develop good skills in speaking and listening and are happy to ask for help when needed. They have mutual respect and patience with each other and are confident independent learners. Children with special educational needs are supported well and also make good progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY546514
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10096233
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	14
Name of registered person	Sallis, Kim
Registered person unique reference number	RP546513
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	02380615545

Willows registered in 2017 and operates from a scout hut in Chandlers Ford. The provision opens five days a week during term time from 9.15am to 2.15pm. There are six staff working with the children, five of whom have early years qualifications.

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