

Offington Park Pre-School



Offington Park Methodist Church, South Farm Road, WORTHING, West Sussex BN14 7TN

Inspection date	20 June 2019
Previous inspection date	15 April 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 staff are welcoming, experienced and attentive. They spend plenty of time playing with children in an engaging way and build strong bonds with them. Their nurturing approach creates a warm and positive environment where children feel very valued, happy and secure.
- The manager and staff work closely with local inclusion services to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff make excellent use of professional expertise to introduce effective strategies and all children make good progress from their starting points, regardless of their circumstances.
- The garden is spacious and very well resourced. There are exciting opportunities for children to investigate nature and wildlife, create and take part in physical play.
- The manager works well with staff, the parent committee and other professionals to reflect on the effectiveness of the pre-school. Together, they celebrate the key strengths of the setting and identify areas for further improvements. There is a culture of continuous improvement in meeting and supporting the needs of the children.
- Some staff are highly skilled at supporting and extending children's learning. However, others miss opportunities to offer further challenge to children and do not make full use of their questioning to encourage critical thinking.
- Overall, staff know the children well. However, they do not consistently use their observations and assessments of children's development or gain enough information from parents to precisely plan for all children's rapid progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- offer further support for staff to enhance their practice in consistently offering further challenge where appropriate and extending children's critical thinking skills to the highest levels
- make consistently strong use of assessments of children's development and information gained from parents to plan more precisely for all children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practices and the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff, children and parents.
- The inspector read some of the pre-school's documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector sampled children's development information and records.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and discussed children's play, learning and progress.

Inspector
Ben Parsons

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The ambitious manager supports her hard-working and enthusiastic staff team well. She leads by example, modelling positive practice, and offers good guidance through both team and individual support meetings. Staff attend further training where appropriate to better support the needs of the children, such as recent autism training, which helped enhance their understanding. Through effective self-evaluation, the manager and staff make further improvements to support children's good outcomes. For example, they have recently introduced a 'calm down kit' with special sensory toys to help children manage their emotions and behaviour. The manager monitors children's progress well, looking at groups of children, such as boys, girls and funded children, to help close any gaps. Safeguarding is effective. All staff attend safeguarding training and have a thorough, up-to-date understanding of how to deal with any child protection concerns.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, staff observe children well and assess their development closely. They follow their interests well and create an engaging and stimulating environment. Children enjoy exploring outside and excitedly hunt for insects. They show fascination as they observe them through magnifying equipment, confidently discussing how many legs they have and what they might be called. Staff inspire children's curiosity and introduce new vocabulary, such as 'centipede'. Staff use stories well to engage children's interest in literacy and develop confidence. For example, children eagerly act out familiar stories in front of the group, joining in with words and actions proudly and enthusiastically.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children explore their stimulating environment with confidence. They develop strong social skills and behaviour and respond well to the sensitive and consistent guidance from staff. Children actively include others in their play, for example when using torches to make shadow puppets with their hands. Children develop strong physical skills and are very active outdoors. They enjoy challenges such as throwing, catching and kicking balls and persevere with new skills, trying to kick balls higher each time. Children respect and understand differences and have plenty of opportunities to explore what makes them the same and different. For instance, they look carefully at their reflection in mirrors, comparing the hair and eye colour of friends as they make self-portraits out of dough.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are keen learners and quickly gain the skills needed for future learning and school. Children communicate well and confidently express their needs, feelings and ideas. They excitedly recall recent experiences. For example, they recall pre-school trips to the farm and talk about their favourite animals they saw. Children enjoy creative activities and show good control over paintbrushes, giving meaning to the marks they make. They enjoy the challenge of mixing colours and use trial and error to eventually make pink out of white and red. Children develop good mathematical skills and understanding in their play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	113620
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	10108421
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	26
Number of children on roll	31
Name of registered person	Offington Park Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP901803
Date of previous inspection	15 April 2015
Telephone number	01903 213 054

Offington Park Pre-School registered in 1989. The setting operates from within the Methodist Church Centre in the Broadwater area of Worthing, West Sussex. It is open Monday to Friday, from 8.30am to 2.30pm, during term time. The pre-school employs eight members of staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The setting receives funding for the early years education of two-, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance *Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted*, which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

