

Inspection of Shurdington Pre-School

Millenium Hall, Bishop Road, Shurdington, CHELTENHAM, Gloucestershire GL51 4TB

Inspection date:

10 March 2022

Overall effectiveness

Requires improvement

The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

Personal development

Good

Leadership and management

Requires improvement

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision requires improvement

Despite weaknesses in the leadership and management of the pre-school, children are happy and content. They are confident and introduce themselves to visitors. Children benefit from a broad curriculum. They have daily opportunities to be physically active and play outdoors. Children run around on the grass, balance on logs and work together to build structures from plastic crates and guttering.

Children are independent and learn to take responsibility for their belongings. They take off their coats, hang them up and sit down on the carpet for group time. Children behave well and have a good understanding of routines. For example, they know that when staff shake the tambourine it is nearly time to tidy up. Young children develop a love of stories, which supports their early literacy skills. They display an awareness of rhythm and tap their hands on their legs as staff enthusiastically read to them. Young children learn to take turns as they lift the flaps on each page of the story book and excitedly make animal noises.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The management committee do not have a secure knowledge and understanding of their role and responsibility to inform Ofsted of changes to the nominated individual and committee members. As a result, Ofsted has not been provided with the information required to check the suitability of all committee members and has not been notified of a change to the nominated individual. However, children's safety is assured because unvetted committee members do not have unsupervised contact with children. The committee are currently working to assign a new nominated individual to the setting.
- The pre-school manager completes informal observations on staff to ensure that teaching remains effective. Staff are encouraged to develop their knowledge and benefit from regular training opportunities. However, the management committee are yet to carry out thorough supervisions of the pre-school manager, to ensure she is supported to further enhance the setting.
- Settling-in procedures are good. Staff gather information from parents about children's capabilities and use this to plan interesting activities that build on their existing knowledge and skills. Children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, make good progress in their learning.
- Staff work closely with families and other professionals, to ensure children who need extra support continue to make good progress. Additional funding, such as early years pupil premium, is used effectively. For example, to provide one-to-one support and resources that aid children's learning and development.
- Staff communicate well with parents and provide good quality verbal feedback about children's learning. They share ideas for activities to support parents to continue their children's learning at home. Parents speak highly of the staff and

value the extensive support they provide for their children. They comment on the progress their children make and state 'they would be lost without them'.

- Staff are tuned in to children's individual needs and provide a range of age-appropriate learning experiences. However, at times, the organisation of activities does not support all children's engagement and concentration. For example, staff organise a song and rhyme activity for some children as others sit quietly with staff to eat their snack. Consequently, young children do not always benefit from meaningful interactions at mealtimes because the increased noise levels make it hard for them to engage and concentrate.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff understand their responsibilities to protect children from harm. They attend regular safeguarding training to keep their knowledge of child protection procedures up to date. Staff are aware of the signs that may indicate a child is at risk of harm. They have a good knowledge of reporting procedures and know the correct action to take should they have a concern about a child or colleague. The pre-school manager implements appropriate recruitment and vetting procedures to ensure all staff are suitable to work with children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the provider must:

	Due date
ensure that those with oversight and governance improve their knowledge and understanding of their roles and responsibilities to maintain requirements	25/03/2022
ensure Ofsted are informed of any changes to the nominated individual and committee members and are supplied with the necessary information to enable suitability checks to be carried out.	25/03/2022

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

- strengthen arrangements for supervisions to support practice and raise the quality of teaching to the highest level
- review the organisation of group activities to enable children to engage fully and

concentrate better.

Setting details

Unique reference number	101543
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	10124205
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	35
Name of registered person	Shurdington Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP905272
Telephone number	07961 396 613
Date of previous inspection	13 May 2015

Information about this early years setting

Shurdington Pre-School registered in 1994 and is located in Shurdington, a village to the south of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. It operates from 8.30am to 2.30pm, Monday to Friday, during term time. The pre-school employs eight members of staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. Two members of staff hold qualified teacher status. The pre-school is registered to accept funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two-, three- and four-years-old.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Holly Smith

Inspection activities

- This is the first routine inspection the nursery received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the owner and manager and has taken this into account in her evaluation of the setting.
- The manager and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss activities and intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector gathered the views of parents during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at required documentation, including evidence of the suitability of staff.

We carried out this inspection 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.

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