

Inspection of Magpies Pre-school

Alver Valley Family Centre, 19 Falcon Meadows Way, Gosport, Hampshire PO13 8AA

Inspection date: 16 September 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
------------------------------	-------------

The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children confidently and independently explore the extensive range of learning opportunities. They access their own learning with caring practitioners there to support them. The children happily join in with creative painting on walls, making play dough and construction that relates to their autumn theme. There is a clear routine for the children. They can make their own decisions when voting for the book of the day. They take risks when climbing trees and are curious when exploring life cycles of plants and vegetables. The children are inquisitive when learning new things about the world around them.

The children have a positive approach to their learning. Staff know the children and their families well and use this to provide new experiences for the children. Children spend a considerable amount of time outside. There is a focus on communication and language, which staff highlighted as a weakness due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The children go on 'spider hunts', find wiggly worms, make homes for the robin and measure sunflowers. They show care and concern for the world around them.

Children feel safe with familiar staff who have cared for them during the whole of pre-school. There is a sense of community. Staff have great relationships with the families and use a range of approaches to discuss the children. For example, they have parents' evenings, stay-and-play sessions, an online learning journal and handovers in the morning and afternoon. The staff consistently question children to extend their prior knowledge, and there is always a two-way flow of communication.

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

- The manager has a clear intention of what she wants the children to learn. She wants children to be curious, build good relationships and be confident. There are high expectations for all children. Staff know their key children well and identify the next steps in their learning and development.
- There is a strong focus on communication and language. This is seen within the pre-school, both inside and outside. Children sing, ask questions and enjoy stories and conversation. Staff plan small-group activities to provide additional support with communication and language, including the use of sign language. The children are progressing and developing new language every day.
- The children's behaviour is good. They follow instructions and understand the rules of the environment. They enjoy learning new things and are resilient. Children keep going until they achieve. For instance, children keep trying when they practise throwing a ball into a specific tyre. Staff use repetition to extend children's prior knowledge. Children have a desire to achieve.

- The staff provide an ambitious curriculum. They ensure that children have access to all areas of learning. They constantly extend learning that started inside and continue it outside. For example, they make play dough and then use it in the mud kitchen. However, staff do not fully extend children's understanding of the use of technology to further enhance their learning.
- Children independently access their snack when they are hungry, understanding their own wants and needs. They confidently and independently access their own resources, such as water from the water butts. This means that children sometimes have wet clothes and, on occasion, staff do not attend to this promptly to ensure they are warm and dry.
- Staff demonstrate impressive skills when supporting children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. They are experienced and work well with outside agencies to meet specific targets. They use a range of resources and techniques, including using different rooms to apply these approaches with little distraction. They know how to work with families to support the needs of the children.
- The staff pride themselves on the pre-school motto of 'making a difference for children, families and the community'. This is confirmed by parents, who have only positive words to say. They feel fully supported when it comes to settling their child and transitioning to school. They trust the staff and know their child is safe in their care. Parents have seen excellent progression in their children's learning and development.
- Staff feel supported by leaders. They have access to online training as well as five hands-on training days, including team-building days. For example, staff worked together to do some den building at their recent training day. The staff also have well-being meetings with their manager. Staff know where the children are in their learning and development and where they want them to be. They are highly qualified and skilled.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff are consistently deployed to ensure the children are safe. They always communicate with each other if they are leaving the surroundings. Staff have good safeguarding knowledge. For instance, they have an understanding about county lines, radicalisation and so-called honour-based violence. They can recognise if a child is not safe and raise a concern to the designated safeguarding lead. They are confident to challenge parents or management if needed. Risk assessments are completed for morning and afternoon sessions. The manager has had up-to-date training in the safer recruitment processes. All staff are checked through the Disclosure and Barring Service.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- extend opportunities for children to learn about the uses of technology to further enhance their understanding of the world
- strengthen procedures for monitoring children's personal care needs throughout the day to ensure they are attended to as promptly as possible.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2588279
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10248234
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	40
Number of children on roll	21
Name of registered person	Oaktree Family Group Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP900885
Telephone number	02392512966
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Magpies Pre-school registered in 2020. it operates from Alver Valley Family Centre in Gosport, Hampshire. The pre-school is open from 9am to 3pm, Monday to Friday, during term time only. There are five staff, all of whom hold a relevant qualification at level 3 and above. The provider receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Harriet Povey

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want the children to learn.
- The inspector spoke to staff during the inspection.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- Children spoke to the inspector and the inspector observed them in their play. The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector met with the manager to discuss the leadership of the pre-school and looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of staff suitability.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

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 <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2022