

Inspection of The Salvation Army Rainbow Pre-School

The Salvation Army, Woodthorpe Road, ASHFORD, Middlesex TW15 3JY

Inspection date: 23 March 2023

Overall effectiveness **Good**

The quality of education **Good**

Behaviour and attitudes **Good**

Personal development **Good**

Leadership and management **Good**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children separate from parents easily and happily enter the pre-school. Staff warmly welcome and greet children. Children engage in play well and feel safe and secure. They behave beautifully and respect their peers and staff alike. Staff celebrate children's achievements. For example, they ask parents to send in 'wow moments' their children have completed at home. Children are content and interact well together. They make friends, share and take turns with resources. Children are confident learners and develop good social skills. This helps to support children's personal, social and emotional development.

Staff focus on preparing children for moving on to school. They support children's development of independence skills well. For instance, staff encourage children to put their lunch box on a trolley and self-register by placing their photo and name on a board. Staff evaluate the provision and highlight areas for improvement within the pre-school effectively. They have identified mathematics as an area of focus. Staff offer many opportunities for children to practise counting and recognise numbers. All children make good progress, including children who speak English as an additional language (EAL) and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

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

- Staff have identified the development of physical skills as a focus for children in the pre-school following the COVID-19 pandemic. Children have access to an array of resources to support this. For example, they can climb and balance on equipment outside and scoop and pour sand in the sand tray. This helps to build up their stamina, strength and coordination.
- Children's development of communication and language skills is fully supported. Staff talk to children all the time. During circle staff, they ask them questions about stories they read, and they read together. Staff regularly introduce topics for discussion. For example, they name the days of the week together. However, on occasion, children sit for long periods of time, as they take part in several planned sessions in quick succession. This causes some to become restless and lose interest.
- Staff plan what they want children to develop and learn. They know their key children well and have an effective key-person system. Children know who their key person is and happily approach them. Staff offer activities to support children who speak EAL. For instance, they identify the countries children are from and celebrate cultures and festivals. This supports all children to understand the world around them and feel included.
- Staff have high expectations for children's behaviour. They are quick to calmly remind children of the pre-school rules, such as to sit nicely at the lunch table.

Children respect staff and listen and act on instruction. This encourages children to develop a secure understanding of expectations and boundaries.

- The manager fully supports staff. Their well-being and mental health are a priority. Staff are comfortable approaching the manager at any time. They attend regular team meetings and discuss topics of interest, such as the provision for children with SEND.
- Staff discuss training needs as a team and have access to regular courses, both online and face to face. They identify extra training that may be needed. This includes the role of the key person and manual handling. This helps to ensure they use every opportunity to extend their knowledge and personal development further.
- Parents are eager to compliment the staff at the pre-school. They comment that staff offer an effective settling-in process and children are quick to respond. Parents say their children are happy and enjoy pre-school. They benefit from regular feedback from staff about children's progress and areas for development. Parents praise staff's support for children with speech delay. They state that children develop well in their communication and language skills. Parents compliment staff for going 'above and beyond' their normal duties.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a secure knowledge of safeguarding and child protection. They are able to identify signs of abuse and neglect. Staff are aware of the process involved to report concerns about children and adults. Safeguarding procedures and contact details can be found on a noticeboard, which all staff are familiar with.

Management has a secure knowledge of safer recruitment processes. Staff embed their safeguarding knowledge by completing regular quizzes. They are aware of their local area and concerns to be aware of, such as county lines. Staff strive to ensure that children are in a safe and secure environment.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- review and refine the routine of the day to ensure children do not sit for too long in planned activities and are able to fully engage in the learning opportunities on offer.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY485669
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	10280796
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 at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	24
Name of registered person	Salvation Army Trustee Company (The)
Registered person unique reference number	RP903315
Telephone number	07884 814830/01784 423424
Date of previous inspection	14 September 2017

Information about this early years setting

The Salvation Army Rainbow Pre-School registered in 2015. It is open from 9.15am to 1pm, Monday and Friday, and 9.15am to 3pm, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, during term time. The pre-school employs four members of staff, of whom all hold a relevant early years qualification up to level 3. The pre-school is in receipt of funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lynne Murray

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 manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the pre-school and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Children communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation during an activity.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate 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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