

Inspection of Barnabas Pre-School

Woodbridge Quay Church, Quay Street, Woodbridge IP12 1BX

Inspection date:

14 September 2023

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children flourish in this incredibly calm and nurturing pre-school. They arrive full of enthusiasm and smiles, bursting to tell staff their exciting news. An excellent settling-in procedure supports children to form strong bonds with staff. As a result, children feel safe and secure and display a great sense of belonging. Children demonstrate exceptional behaviour and are courteous towards their friends and staff. They confidently explore their surroundings, which ignites their curiosity and motivation to learn. The manager and staff plan a meticulously well-sequenced curriculum, which offers children superb learning experiences that are consistently built on and tailored to their specific needs.

The pre-school is a hive of activity. Everywhere you look, children are actively engaged in an exciting range of activities. Children watch in awe as water flows down the tube. When the water slows down and stops, children become very inquisitive. Staff use effective questioning techniques that support children's problem-solving. As a result, children's thirst for new learning ignites as they discover how gravity works.

Staff use their passion and expert knowledge of nature to enrich children's learning. Children become captivated as they watch worms move through the soil and look through magnifying glasses to search for more worms. They excitedly exclaim that the worms are 'moving slowly'. Staff encourage children's thinking through discussion, such as by asking 'what worm is this?'. Children share their thoughts and ideas and say a 'wireworm', recalling past knowledge.

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

- The leadership and management of the pre-school is inspirational. The manager and dedicated staff continually strive for excellence. Their passion for making sure that every child receives the best care and education is infectious. The quality of teaching across this inclusive setting is exemplary. The pre-school uses additional funding to ensure that all children have access to the curriculum.
- Staff focus on providing children with meaningful learning opportunities to help them to learn about their local community. For example, they visit the local market. They explore the nature reserve, where they trek through the woods and observe the changes in the seasons. Staff involve children in all aspects of their exciting adventures and support them to think about and plan their journey. This helps to ignite children's interest in the wider world.
- Children are highly imaginative. They pretend to be shopkeepers and say to staff 'that is four pence please'. Staff listen to children's ideas and thoughts as they express an interest in making a walkie-talkie as they pretend to be a police officer. Children have a can-do attitude as they make their walkie-talkies using a

box and paper. They tell staff 'it needs an aerial' and place a small stick on the top of the box.

- Staff have incredibly high expectations of children. They promote children's independence as an integral part of the curriculum. Staff have a 'helper of the day' who is responsible for particular tasks, such as ringing the bell at the start of the session and counting the children. Children relish the opportunity to help staff and each other. For instance, children wash their plates at mealtimes. They also show a superb sense of responsibility as they conscientiously help to tidy away their toys at the end of the day.
- Staff skilfully weave mathematics through activities for all age groups of children. Younger children enjoy number rhymes and use their fingers to help them count as they sing. They learn about 'full' and 'empty' as they play in the water tray. Older children show great pride as they master mathematical concepts of addition and subtraction. They discuss that one less than four is three and one more than four is five.
- The tremendously skilled staff make stories fully interactive as they use puppets and prompts to bring stories to life. Staff read with motivating clarity and expression. Children greatly enjoy repeating key phrases, such as 'I sent it back' and 'he was perfect' from the 'Dear Zoo' story. They actively revisit stories and can recall them with great joy. Staff introduce new vocabulary, such as 'bumpy' and 'fierce'.
- Partnerships with parents are exceptional. Parents comment that the home visits are amazing as they help to develop a trusting relationship between staff and children. They highlight that the dedicated and knowledgeable staff deliver outstanding care and education. Parents say that the well-being of the children is at the forefront of the pre-school. They say that it is 'such a wonderful environment for children to thrive in'.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is a strong culture of safeguarding throughout the pre-school, which seeks to eliminate all risks of harm against the children. The manager and staff demonstrate extensive knowledge of the types of abuse and indicators that might alert them of a child being at risk of harm and abuse. The manager and staff understand how to respond to concerns and contact relevant agencies without delay. The manager and staff update their safeguarding knowledge frequently. They complete face-to-face training and have in-house quizzes. The manager has robust recruitment procedures in place. All new staff complete a thorough induction, which includes in-depth knowledge of the pre-school's safeguarding policies and safeguarding training.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2645785
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	10295781
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	25
Number of children on roll	31
Name of registered person	Branch, Deborah Ann
Registered person unique reference number	RP513222
Telephone number	07530325068
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Barnabas Pre-school registered in 2021. It is situated in the centre of Woodbridge, Suffolk. The pre-school employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The pre-school operates during term time only, providing various sessions between 8am and 4pm, Monday to Thursday, and 8am to 1pm on Friday. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Diane Middleton

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 spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke to the manager about how the pre-school uses additional funding to support children's learning and needs.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- Discussions were held between the staff and the inspector to help to establish their understanding of how to safeguard the children in their care.

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 2023