

Lordswood Community Centre Pre-School

Sandpiper Road, Lordswood, Southampton, Hampshire, SO16 8FD



Inspection date

31 March 2017

Previous inspection date

13 January 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the 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

- Staff effectively support children who learn English as an additional language and those who have special educational needs. They use well-targeted strategies to help quickly close any gaps in their development.
- Staff work as a strong team to monitor the quality of the provision and their practice. The manager is a very effective leader and staff work well together to support children's progress and to share good practice.
- Staff provide a wide range of exciting opportunities that motivates children's learning well and gives appropriate challenges to support them to make good progress overall.
- Staff use records, policies and procedures to ensure the safe and efficient management of the provision and to ensure that children's needs are met.
- Staff evaluate how children prefer to learn. For example, they plan exciting outdoor activities, such as walking in the local woods, for those who learn best outdoors.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager has not fully involved parents in the self-evaluation process, so does not fully take account of their views when considering future improvements.
- Occasionally, staff do not help children to play cooperatively, to further encourage their good behaviour overall.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- involve parents in the self-evaluation process more, so their opinions and thoughts are given full consideration as part of ongoing improvements
- encourage staff to help children to play cooperatively, to further encourage their good behaviour overall.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children's interactions indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector viewed documentation, such as policies, procedures and evidence of staff suitability checks.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to at the inspection.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager and discussed children's learning and development.
- The inspector had discussions with the manager, staff and children.

Inspector

Clare Leake

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a secure understanding of child protection procedures. Staff ensure that children receive good-quality care and are kept safe from harm in secure premises. Staff recruitment is robust and an induction programme ensures that staff are familiar with procedures. The manager supports and encourages staff effectively to help improve the quality of teaching and identify any training needs. All staff are qualified and training is given high priority. For example, recent training on supporting children with additional needs has helped to improve the staff members' professional knowledge and skills. Additional funding is used well to purchase resources to suit children's interests and learning needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff gather the views of parents about their children's care and learning when they first join the setting. They use this information well to establish clear starting points for learning and what children are interested in when they start. Staff observe and assess children's development accurately and use this information to plan activities to support their individual needs well. Staff promote children's mathematical development well. For example, they encourage them to compare and measure lengths, and introduce language such as 'bigger' and 'smaller', as children explore trains and a track. Children learn to celebrate and value different cultural and religious festivals, and they also begin to value each other's differences.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are emotionally well supported by the caring and attentive staff, who help them to form strong attachments. Many of the team have worked at the setting for several years and offer stability for parents and children. Parents speak highly about the personalised care their children receive. Children benefit from good arrangements to help them settle in, including an effective key-person system. Children enjoy physical exercise outdoors, for example, as they dig in the sand pit for pretend treasure and race around on scooters as part of developing their health and well-being. Staff frequently praise children and boost their self-esteem well. Children learn to do things for themselves, such as serving themselves snacks and pouring their own drinks.

Outcomes for children are good

Children progress well and reach typical levels of development for their ages. They are confident, motivated and independent learners who concentrate well during their play. Children put their coats on ready to go outside with minimal help. Older children are well prepared to take their first steps into school. Their literacy skills are developing well. They recognise the sounds the letters make, and how to read and write their own names.

Setting details

Unique reference number	131542
Local authority	Southampton
Inspection number	1085735
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	62
Name of registered person	Lordswood Communtiy Centre Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP520998
Date of previous inspection	13 January 2015
Telephone number	07932 951792

Lordswood Community Pre-School registered in 2001. It operates from a community centre in the Lordswood area of Southampton. The pre-school is open Monday to Friday during term times only. Sessions run from 9am to midday and from midday to 3pm. The provider employs 10 members of staff to work with the children, seven of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, and two who hold qualifications at level two. The manager holds early years professional status. The pre-school provides early years education to children aged two, three and four years.

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