

Grove Road Pre-school

Grove Wood Primary School, Grove Road, RAYLEIGH, Essex, SS6 8UA



Inspection date	8 March 2016
Previous inspection date	19 May 2011

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

- The pre-school is led robustly by the management team. There is a strong commitment to raising the standards of care and education, and staff are well supported to build on their skills. This helps to continually improve outcomes for children.
- Staff manage children's behaviour well. They are positive role models and provide clear explanations that help children know what is expected. Children show respect for others and play harmoniously together. They share toys and learn to take turns.
- Children's well-being is effectively promoted. Staff take all necessary steps to make sure children are kept safe and secure. Children enjoy the praise and encouragement they receive for their contributions and achievements. They develop good levels of confidence and independence.
- The quality of teaching is strong and all children make good progress. Children are consistently encouraged to explore and experiment using all of their senses. They become very confident in expressing themselves.
- Managers and staff continually undertake training to develop their understanding of current best-practice guidance. Staff reflect on their practice to improve the quality of the service provided for children and their families.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Parents are not given enough opportunities to be actively involved in evaluating the provision.
- On occasion, staff sometimes miss spontaneous opportunities to promote children's next steps during their self-chosen play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- devise further ways of involving parents in evaluating the provision to continually drive up standards
- strengthen staff's skills to make the most of every opportunity to help children achieve their next steps in learning and further improve outcomes for them.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the pre-school's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Joanne Barnett

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff complete relevant training and understand their responsibilities. They have a secure understanding of the action they must take if they are concerned about a child's welfare. Staff carefully assess and minimise potential risks to children within the pre-school setting in order to help ensure that they are protected and kept safe from harm. Managers monitor and accurately evaluate the quality of staff's teaching and children's learning. Children's progress is checked by their key person, who maintains records about their learning and development. Partnerships with parents are good and parents comment about their children's enjoyment of the activities and the friendliness of staff. Staff have good links with outside professionals, schools and agencies to ensure all children's needs are met.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children's progress is regularly and accurately assessed. The progress of different groups of children is monitored and any gaps in their learning are identified and addressed effectively. Staff skilfully build opportunities into all activities to stimulate children's communication skills. Children are encouraged to listen and to talk to adults and other children. They learn to follow and give instructions. They answer questions and share their news and experiences in small and larger groups. Children are eager to express their thoughts and feelings. Staff encourage children to be curious and to find out about the things that interest them. Children develop their understanding of aspects of the natural world. They know about birds nesting in the outdoor area and they know what flowers need in order to grow. Children play imaginatively and create their own designs on the art table. Children take part in a wide range of activities that helps them to use and build on their knowledge of number, shape, measurement and the sounds of the alphabet.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

All children are happy and settled. Older pre-school children need very few reminders to follow the staff's expectations for behaviour. They line up to go outdoors, and put their hands up and wait for their turn to answer questions. They respond positively to staff's instructions to help tidy away toys. Younger children develop very good physical skills. They use one-handed tools with increasing control. They enjoy using chalk to make marks and can draw lines and circles. They negotiate space successfully when they ride wheeled toys. They become proficient in using resources that require good balance and coordination. All children learn to recognise, value and respect similarities and differences in themselves and others.

Outcomes for children are good

Children thoroughly enjoy being at pre-school. Their behaviour is good because they feel secure and are motivated to learn and join in. Children are developing their knowledge and understanding of letters and the sounds that link with them. They learn about numbers, shapes and measures frequently through activities and labelling in the environment. Children are confident learners and are well prepared for their continuing education, including their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY417014
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	851788
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	83
Name of provider	Grove Road Pre School
Date of previous inspection	19 May 2011
Telephone number	01268 747 322

Grove Road Pre-school was registered in 1998. The pre-school employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2 or 3 and one has an Early Years degree. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 8.25am until 11.25am and from 11.55am until 2.55pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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