

Ashurst Wood Community Pre-School



School Lane, Ashurst Wood, East Grinstead, West Sussex, RH19 3QW

Inspection date	6 October 2016
Previous inspection date	12 October 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff gather a thorough understanding of children's overall progress and developmental needs. They consistently consider input from others, including parents, as they meticulously assess children's achievements and abilities.
- Staff develop exceptionally strong relationships with parents and with staff in the other settings children attend, to share information and ensure very high levels of continuity in care. Parents have excellent opportunities to continue children's learning at home.
- Children make excellent progress and quickly meet the expected outcomes for their ages. Children who have special educational needs thrive and, following the manager's monitoring of progress for all children, staff rapidly close any identified learning gaps and address development needs.
- Children have wonderful opportunities to learn about healthy lifestyles. For example, they participate in a rich array of activities which enable them to find out about nutritious eating and develop positive attitudes to fruits and vegetables.
- Staff receive excellent support from management to extend their qualifications and knowledge, such as attending training courses. Staff constantly use the knowledge they gain to improve learning opportunities for children.
- Children benefit from exceedingly strong systems that prepare them for when they move to school. Management takes highly effective steps to ensure children develop the knowledge and skills they need to handle the change with ease.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider even further the ways in which ethnic diversity is represented in the pre-school.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector talked with staff, children and the manager at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation, and checked evidence of the suitability checks and qualifications of staff.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of children's learning and staff practice with the manager.

Inspector

Kerry Lynn

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Management and staff show exceptional confidence about the safeguarding procedures. They all understand the signs that indicate a child's welfare may be at risk. The manager completes remarkably self-critical evaluations to ensure the provision is always improving and takes careful account of the views of others, such as staff and parents. For example, she extended communication with parents to increase ways for them to build on children's learning at home. The manager routinely carries out precise monitoring of children's progress to ensure staff consistently look to improve children's learning outcomes. The manager follows excellent procedures to support staff and maintain their extremely high levels of skill, enthusiasm and dedication to their roles.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff show extraordinary skill at extending children's learning. For instance, they use superbly delivered questions to encourage children to develop their thoughts as they solve problems independently. Teaching methods clearly inspire children's confidence and pride in their work. For example, there are frequent cheers of 'I did it' heard in the setting. Children are extremely keen to learn about differences that exist between people. For instance, they enthusiastically share their own stories and family backgrounds with their friends. The manager recognises the need to extend this awareness even more. For instance, although there are displays and resources that reflect diversity and tackle issues such as gender stereotyping with great effect, they do not always represent other cultures to the same extent.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

There is a wonderful atmosphere in the pre-school, where everybody loves being there and children flourish. Children develop exceptionally strong bonds with staff, who know about their lives and make every child feel valued and special. There is an excellent focus on developing independence. For example, the organisation of the environment strongly supports this and children manage parts of the daily routine confidently without staff support, such as pouring drinks when they are thirsty. Children behave impeccably, for instance, they play extremely cooperatively and happily take turns in games without the need for staff support.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children develop exceptionally strong foundations for their future learning. They have an immense interest in early writing. For example, young children make meaningful marks in sand and older children practise writing shopping lists. Children have an excellent understanding of mathematics. For instance, they competently use rulers for measuring and they add numbers together. All children are extremely keen to engage in activities that develop their understanding of letters and the sounds they make.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY397901
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1058906
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	38
Name of registered person	Ashurst Wood Community Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP909646
Date of previous inspection	12 October 2012
Telephone number	01342 825 515

Ashurst Wood Community Pre-School registered in 2009. It is managed by a committee of parents whose children attend the pre-school. The pre-school is open on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9am to 3pm, on Wednesday from 9am to midday, and on Friday from 9am to 1pm, term time only. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for children aged three and four years. There are five staff, all of whom hold appropriate childcare qualifications, including one member of staff who has qualified teacher status.

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