

# Swallowfield Pre School

Swallowfield Parish Hall, The Street, Swallowfield, Reading, Berkshire, RG7 1QX



## Inspection date

8 June 2015

Previous inspection date

4 March 2010

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Requires improvement</b>	<b>3</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Requires improvement	3
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting <b>does not meet legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Staff do not meet the learning and development requirements. They share some useful information with parents about their children's ongoing progress but do not complete the required progress checks for two-year-old children.
- The nominated person was unable to provide all necessary documentation regarding staff qualifications during the inspection. This lack of effective organisation does not help to ensure the safe and efficient running of the service.
- Children have access to a wide range of technology. However, they are not always encouraged to use technology to extend learning further.
- Staff do not consistently encourage children to become fully independent during mealtimes. For example, children do not have the opportunity to pour their own drinks.

### It has the following strengths

- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents benefit from opportunities to talk to staff about their children's progress.
- Staff have a thorough understanding of child protection procedures. They are regularly asked if they remain suitable to work with children and know how to report concerns.
- Overall, teaching is strong. Staff ask children questions to extend their thinking and help them build on existing skills.
- Staff form appropriate bonds with children. As a result, children settle well and are happy and confident.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

### To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- provide parents with the required written summary of their child's progress in the prime areas when they are aged between two and three years
- ensure that the records required for the safe and efficient management of the setting are available to Ofsted during inspection.

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

- enhance opportunities for children to learn using technology
- provide consistent opportunities for children to further develop their independence during personal care routines.

## Inspection activities

- The inspector toured the areas of the premises children use.
- The inspector spoke to the parents to gather their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the nominated person.
- The inspector spoke to the nominated person and staff during the inspection to determine their knowledge.
- The inspector sampled policies and documents.

## Inspector

Sara Hope

## Inspection findings

### **How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement**

Staff provide stimulating activities that effectively support children's progress across all areas of learning and development. The failure to complete the progress checks at two years means that staff are not including parents in gaining an agreed overview of children's achievements at an early stage. This does not help to identify when early intervention may be needed to address any gaps in children's learning and development. However, staff complete other ongoing assessments of children's individual progress and have high expectations of what they can achieve. Children enjoy varied experiences such as making muddy puddles, interacting with their friends, painting the fence with water and making marks with colourful pens. Children have access to toys that allow them to explore through technology but do not always encourage children to use these. Children have plenty of opportunities to investigate nature and find out about the world they live in. They enjoy looking at the bees in the garden and large land snails. Parents are happy with the service they receive and state that children love coming to the pre-school.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good**

Staff remind children to walk inside, to help tidy away toys and to be kind to their friends. Therefore, children know what is expected from them. Staff praise children and encourage them to behave well. Children are supported to become more self-reliant. Older children wash their own hands and spread their own butter on their crackers during snack. Younger children have more adult support when needed. However, staff pour all children's drinks for them, which slightly reduces opportunities for children to become fully independent. Staff effectively help children prepare for school. They find out about the schools they are going to and welcome visits from teachers. Staff provide consistent opportunities for older children to learn to dress themselves and put on their own shoes.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement**

The nominated person, who is also the manager, was not able to provide evidence of staff's qualifications are available during inspection. However, she located enough to demonstrate the required minimum ratio of qualified staff is met. The nominated person carries out evaluations of the service. She includes feedback from parents, staff and children to make improvements that result in better outcomes for children. Staff receive regular meetings, share information from training and review daily routines at the end of each session. This strengthens their overall practice and improves experiences for children. Staff have strong links with speech and language therapists, parents, teachers and other carers to see additional support for children where this is deemed necessary.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	148684
<b>Local authority</b>	Wokingham
<b>Inspection number</b>	841844
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	34
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	38
<b>Name of provider</b>	Swallowfield Pre School Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	4 March 2010
<b>Telephone number</b>	07502133010

Swallowfield Pre-School registered in 1992. It is located in Swallowfield, Berkshire. It opens Monday to Friday between 9.15am and 12.30pm, term time only. Lunch club is available each day. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four. A total of nine members of staff are employed to work with children. The manager holds Early Years Professional Status and another member of staff is a qualified teacher. Of the remaining staff, five hold qualifications at level 2 or level 3.

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