

Emmer Green Pre School

Youth and Community Centre, Grove Road, Emmer Green, Reading, Berkshire, RG4 8LN



Inspection date

10 July 2015

Previous inspection date

5 May 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
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		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff provide a wide range of stimulating and purposeful activities and experiences that effectively challenge children. As a result, all children, including those learning English as an additional language, make good progress from their starting points.
- The quality of teaching is good. Staff's qualifications and secure knowledge of the learning and development requirements provide children with good quality learning experiences.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. This supports children's learning and development effectively. Staff regularly share information about children's achievements and suggest ideas to involve parents in their child's learning at home.
- Partnerships with other early years providers are good. The two-way sharing of information provides continuity of care and learning for children between settings.
- Staff form positive relationships with children. They gain information from parents to plan for children's needs from the outset and this helps children settle quickly.
- The management team regularly reflect on their practice. They consider the views of parents, children and staff, to make continuous improvements and to maintain positive outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There are limited opportunities for children to explore a variety of technological resources, to strengthen their understanding of the uses of technology.
- Staff do not use every opportunity to extend children's awareness of healthy lifestyles, for example, by discussing the benefits of healthy eating and exercising with children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to explore and use different forms of technology, to strengthen their understanding of how technology is used for different purposes
- develop children's understanding of the importance of healthy lifestyles, through everyday opportunities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas used by the pre-school.
- The inspector observed children and staff during play, and carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector examined a sample of policies, children's records and other documents.
- The inspector spoke with several parents, children and staff to gain their views.
- The inspector discussed the self-evaluation process with the manager.

Inspector

Alison Southard

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Staff have a thorough understanding of how children learn. They make regular observations, monitor children's development closely and share this with parents. This helps staff to plan activities that motivate and engage children, and to identify any areas where children need extra support. Staff talk to children as they play to support their communication and language skills effectively. They encourage conversations and provide opportunities for all children to contribute to discussions. For example, children talked about their experiences of holidays as a result of receiving a postcard. Staff promote children's love of reading. They operate a library that children can choose books from. Children develop their imaginative skills well. For example, they worked together to build a rescue boat out of large wooden blocks. Staff use a good range of teaching methods to support children's play and learning, to help prepare them in readiness for school.

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

Staff provide a welcoming environment for children. They respond sensitively to children's physical and emotional needs. Staff encourage children to be independent. Children learn to explore the environment freely and develop self-care skills very well. For example, children use knives independently at snack time. Children know the routines of the pre-school and display confidence. They develop good hygiene practices and have daily opportunities for outdoor play and exercise, which greatly enhance their physical well-being. Children play cooperatively and form strong friendships. Staff teach children about keeping themselves safe, reinforcing this with regular evacuation drills and discussions about road safety. They provide opportunities for children to learn and respect differences between themselves and others in society, to strengthen their awareness of diversity.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The manager and committee have a good understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. Staff carry out risk assessments to reduce hazards to children, and they know the procedures to follow well should they have concerns about a child's welfare. The manager closely monitors the delivery of the educational programmes to ensure children make good progress. She provides staff with regular supervision and implements an effective programme of professional development. This helps staff to build on their knowledge and skills, and to drive continuous improvement. For example, staff used their knowledge from behaviour management training to improve their practice. This has clear benefits for children because behaviour in the pre-school is extremely good. The manager and committee ensure robust recruitment procedures, and the vetting and induction of new staff, are in place to help ensure staff are suitable to work with children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	116826
Local authority	Reading
Inspection number	825131
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	48
Name of provider	Emmer Green Pre School Committee
Date of previous inspection	5 May 2010
Telephone number	0118 901 5506

Emmer Green Pre School registered in 1965. It operates from the Youth and Community Centre in Emmer Green, near Reading, Berkshire. The pre-school is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday during term times only. Operating hours are from 9am to 3pm. The preschool employs 12 staff; of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years old.

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