

Red Barn Community Preschool



Red Barn Cp School, Linden Lea, FAREHAM, Hampshire, PO16 8HJ

Inspection date	25 February 2016
Previous inspection date	2 July 2009

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff give exceptional support to children's personal development, behaviour and welfare. Children behave impeccably, show high levels of confidence in social situations and eagerness to learn.
- The management team's liaison with the school is excellent. A first-class, united approach to early learning prepares children very well for their move on to school. For example, fun joint activities linked to favourite stories are planned on a Friday.
- Partnership with parents is excellent. Staff communicate with parents exceedingly well. For example, they provide tips and guidance on how to support children's learning at home and how parents can be educators.
- A rich and stimulating learning environment keeps children excited and engaged in their self-chosen play.
- Children make good progress in their development. Staff have a secure understanding of how to promote children's learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The staff are not highly skilled in teaching mathematics, particularly in promoting counting and problem solving during spontaneous activities.
- The management team has not considered all aspects of the role of staff who have responsibility for individual children or small groups of children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop staff's teaching skills in mathematics
- develop the role of staff who have particular responsibility for individual and small groups of children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children's play activities indoors and outdoors, looked at the available resources and read relevant documentation.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nominated person and manager to discuss their leadership and management, including self-evaluation methods.
- The inspector spoke to a sample of parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Lorraine Wardlaw

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team knows and fully meets the legal requirements. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have a very secure understanding of their role and the procedures to take should they have a child protection concern. Regular guidance and training ensure that the well-qualified staff constantly improve their practice. The manager successfully monitors the delivery of the educational programme, planning and assessment. She is aware of areas of teaching to address with staff. Regular meetings and self-evaluation ensure that children's outcomes improve. Staff and children make excellent use of the space on the new, purpose-built site.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The staff enhance children's thinking and promote vocabulary, concepts and skills through supportive play. For example, children eagerly explore cornflour with water using their fingers and a wide variety of tools. Staff complete regular observations and assessments on children; they know each child well and deliver effective teaching. For example, staff encourage older children to write their names and to recognise shapes. Children learn through hands-on investigations of the natural world. For example, staff teach children about the life cycle of a frog when they go pond dipping in the school grounds next door.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are very happy and exceedingly well cared for. They are extremely confident and motivated, for example, they showed excellent listening behaviour during a parachute game. Experienced staff are exceptionally good at nurturing children's emotional well-being and preparing them for change. Highly safety-conscious staff ensure that the security systems on arrival are always adhered to. Staff teach children how to keep safe from a young age. For example, children recall the safety rules with ease and wear safety helmets, unprompted by staff, when they pedal balance bikes outdoors. Children learn how to live a healthy lifestyle. They play outdoors in all weathers and have ample opportunity to develop their physical skills, for example, through challenging climbing equipment. Children experience the workings of their allotment, grow produce and learn to prepare healthy snacks.

Outcomes for children are good

Children have strong levels of motivation, feel very safe and thoroughly enjoy their play and learning. All children learn to become communicators. For those children below expected levels of development in speaking, adult-led teaching in small groups and the use of repetitive stories inspire them to talk. Children make good progress from their starting points and receive good interaction, support and challenge to help them achieve their next steps in learning. Children develop the key skills required for their future life.

Setting details

Unique reference number	507811
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	826187
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	26
Number of children on roll	55
Name of provider	The Red Barn Community Playgroup
Date of previous inspection	2 July 2009
Telephone number	01329 280 900

Red Barn Community Pre-school registered in 1994. The pre-school is situated in Red Barn Primary School in the residential area of Portchester, north west of the city of Portsmouth. Children are in receipt of nursery education funding. The pre-school supports children who have special educational needs. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday from 8am to 4pm during school terms. The committee employs a manager and five staff to work directly with the children; of these, one member of staff has an early years qualification at level 6 and five staff have a qualification at level 3.

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