

Elmdon Nursery School

Elmcroft, Woodfield, Ashtead, Surrey, KT21 2RL



Inspection date

12 April 2016

Previous inspection date

26 January 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- Children form extremely secure attachments with staff, which nurtures their emotional well-being particularly well. Staff are exceptionally consistent with supporting children in their routines which helps them settle-in quickly. Children behave exceptionally well and show high levels of confidence and self-esteem.
- The quality of planning and teaching is excellent. Staff are highly motivated and enthusiastic. They use their precise assessments of children's learning to plan highly beneficial activities extremely well. Staff help children to become confident and resourceful learners who make outstanding progress in relation to their starting points.
- Children have daily opportunities to investigate and explore the environment, and resources indoors and outdoors, which they do with great excitement. They become highly confident and develop excellent communication skills in readiness for the next stage of their education.
- Parents are tremendously happy with the setting. For example, they comment on their children's excellent progress and how staff share details of this with them. Partnerships with parents are highly effective.
- The provider and staff are committed to providing high-quality care and learning. They work tirelessly to continually improve the nursery and their teaching practice. For example, staff receive excellent ongoing training which they share with colleagues.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the already successful ways used to reflect each child's home language and culture in the environment even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outside, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and looked through sample documentation, such as policies and staff qualifications.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of children's learning and development records.

Inspector

Anja Eribake

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. All staff have an excellent awareness of the procedures to follow to keep children safe. The manager and staff work closely together to meticulously monitor children's progress. They thoroughly assess how children are progressing and quickly address any gaps in learning to help all children make excellent progress. Partnerships with parents and other early years professionals are exceptional. Staff create a culture of support and continuously strive to have a positive impact on all children and their families. The staff's ongoing suitability is carefully monitored through appraisals and regular supervision. They demonstrate a genuine interest and passion for their work. The provider constantly evaluates the quality of the setting and quickly tackles any areas for development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children are extremely keen and eager to learn. Staff demonstrate excellent questioning skills to stimulate children's critical thinking. For example, children ask staff why they cannot use any brush or soap to brush their teeth. Staff build on their interest by encouraging them to feel and look at different brushes, such as a paintbrush, a broom and a toothbrush. Staff make the best possible use of every opportunity for learning. For example, during snack time they ask children to count the snacks and the children present, in order to estimate if there are enough for everyone. This helps to promote children's awareness of mathematics. Staff are very skilled at planning resources and activities that build on children's prior knowledge and effectively enhance their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The well-qualified staff are highly knowledgeable about children's individual needs. They have an excellent understanding of their role in promoting children's development and enthusiastically join in with them as they play. Children have a wealth of learning opportunities available to them in the highly stimulating and well-organised environment both indoors and outdoors. Children learn about the world and the local community although staff do not always extend the use of children's own home languages and cultures in the nursery. Children learn about healthy lifestyles and relish taking part in physical activities, such as clambering on the climbing frames, which help them keep fit.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are extremely well prepared for their future learning. For example, they are highly motivated, articulate and develop very strong friendships. Children make substantial progress from their starting points, exceeding developmental expectations in many aspects. They enthusiastically cooperate during play, willingly share resources, confidently discuss topics of interest to them and develop many independent skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	122556
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	825297
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	22
Number of children on roll	35
Name of provider	Hilary Madeleine Wilkinson
Date of previous inspection	26 January 2011
Telephone number	01372 273854

Elmdon Nursery School is privately run and registered in 1987. The nursery school is situated in a residential area in Ashted, Surrey. It is open from 9.30am to 12.30pm on Monday and Friday, and from 9.30am to 3.30pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, during term times and for three days per week during school holidays. There are eight members of staff, seven of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications to at least level 3. This includes two staff with Qualified Teacher Status. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged three and four years.

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