

Costessey Pre School

Costessey County Infant School, Beaumont Road, NORWICH, NR5 0HG



Inspection date

1 December 2017

Previous inspection date

25 May 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The new manager, staff and committee have worked hard since the last inspection to address the action and recommendation raised. As a result, all committee members have now had their suitability checked by Ofsted and children are safeguarded.
- Safety is given a very high priority. Hazards to children are identified and minimised and children are taught how to promote their own safety.
- Staff plan an interesting and varied range of activities that sparks children's curiosity. Children keenly make their own choices and demonstrate that they are developing skills, which help them continue to be active and experimental learners.
- Children confidently make independent choices from a cafe style snack bar. They learn how to make healthy choices about the foods they eat. This enhances their health and self-care skills as part of a sociable experience.
- Children develop very close attachments to staff who understand when children need comfort and reassurance.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff are not yet fully effective in engaging with parents to involve them when identifying and planning for children's next steps in learning.
- The current arrangements for the performance management of staff do not focus sufficiently on raising the quality of teaching to the highest possible level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- involve parents even more in identifying and planning for their child's next steps in learning
- build on the current arrangements for the performance management of staff so that it focuses more specifically on raising the quality of teaching to the highest possible level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with a member of the committee, the manager, staff and children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager. She looked at relevant documentation and the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.

Inspector

Ruth Patel

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager and committee set clear targets for development. They consider the views of staff, parents and children to meet children's needs. Staff have, for example, reorganised the use of classroom space to help children sustain their concentration and engage well with all activities. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of how to keep children safe and secure. They take advantage of training opportunities to deepen and develop their skills in child protection. There are effective systems in place to ensure the ongoing suitability of staff and committee members. There are rigorous procedures to ensure that children play in risk-free areas indoors and outside. Staff develop very effective relationships with parents and the adjoining school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The experienced staff know how young children learn. They make frequent observations of children's achievements in their learning and are familiar with using this information to track the progress children make. Their planning ensures that there is an equal focus on all aspects of learning. Children are effectively supported as they play. Children enjoy playing in the role-play area, exploring dinosaurs in sand and using play dough. They engage in activities that encourage them to explore and to use their imaginations, for example, they use loose parts to make a pirate ship and delight in making pretend food in the mud kitchen. They show an interest in books and practise their early writing skills as they write for different purposes. Staff model language well and questions are skilfully used to help encourage children's thinking.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide a stimulating environment that children are keen to explore. Children make independent choices and negotiate with others to decide what they want to play with. They learn to respect each other's opinions. There are many opportunities for children to practise their physical skills as part of each session, indoors and in a large outdoor area. Children's behaviour is good. Staff consistently apply positive, clear and age-appropriate behaviour management strategies, ensuring children know what is expected of them. Children demonstrate good self-help skills, they collect and put on their own coats and independently wash their hands before all mealtimes.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress. This includes children who are working below expectations when they first start at the pre-school. They make improvements in key areas, such as speech and language. Children grow in confidence and learn how to cooperate with others. They develop their language skills and enjoy communication groups, singing songs and sharing stories. Children learn to count accurately and order objects by size and shape. Children are well prepared for the next stage in their learning, including their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY350641
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	1100548
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 - 8
Total number of places	44
Number of children on roll	70
Name of registered person	Costessey Pre-school Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP517338
Date of previous inspection	25 May 2017
Telephone number	01603 740 175

Costessey Pre School registered in 2007. The pre-school employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications between levels 2 and 4. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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