

Newlands Spring Pre-School



Newland Spring Pre School, Dickens Place, CHELMSFORD CM1 4UU

Inspection date	6 December 2018
Previous inspection date	14 July 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

- Children's health, welfare and well-being are significantly enhanced by the vigilance of staff and their highly consistent approach to working closely with each child and their family.
- Staff are highly skilled and sensitive in helping children of all ages to form secure emotional attachments. This gives children a strong base for developing their independence. They explore activities in the pre-school and increase confidence in their own abilities.
- Staff provide creative sensory materials that encourage children to explore using a variety of senses. Staff have a secure understanding of their key children and their individual stages of development. Children make good progress.
- The manager supervises and encourages staff to enhance their professional development. This gives them the opportunity to develop their existing teaching practice and add new ideas to make sure the curriculum offered remains relevant and balanced across different areas of learning. Reflective practice is good and involves staff, children and parents.
- At times, planned activities do not make the most of learning opportunities to challenge children to the maximum.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance planned activities so that children are consistently challenged, to the optimum, in their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector discussed an evaluation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the manager, staff and children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of persons working with children. The inspector discussed with the manager and staff how they reflect on their practice.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through discussions during the inspection process.

Inspector

Lynn Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff demonstrate a good understanding of how to protect children in their care. They identify the signs and symptoms of abuse and know how to proceed if they have any concerns about the welfare of a child. Ratios are maintained and children are well supervised indoors and outdoors. The well-qualified team works together effectively. Parents are aware of their children's development through regular meetings with staff. They are encouraged to share their experience of their children's learning at home. Children's progress is monitored well by the manager. She uses this information to identify any gaps in children's learning. Where concerns are identified the manager works closely with the child's key person to ensure these are closed as swiftly as possible.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff promote children's early literacy and communication skills effectively. For example, they provide resources that enable children to form the letters of their name and encourage them to use these skills by writing their names on their creations. Staff consistently provide children with opportunities during play to listen, think, process and then respond to what has been asked. They provide children with plenty of opportunities to look at books, listen to stories and to dress up as their favourite characters. Children use their imagination as they become princesses. While outside they thoroughly enjoy pretending to be builders, hammering and measuring the playhouse. Children practice their developing road safety awareness as they use a scaled down version of a pelican crossing to move safely across the playground while other children are using wheeled toys.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff's work with parents, before children start at the pre-school, is exceptional. They build very close bonds and pertinent information is shared during home visits. Children enjoy phased entry into sessions, starting their day a little later than their peers, then finishing at the same time. Staff and parents report how this simple idea has eased all worries and enabled the children to begin their early years journey very calmly and happily. Children demonstrate extremely positive behaviour and high-levels of self-control. They are quick to mimic and learn excellent manners, that staff model for them. Children very quickly develop the ability to negotiate and organise turn taking. They thoroughly enjoy the excellent opportunities to improve their physical development and personal independence.

Outcomes for children are good

Children acquire the skills that they need to be ready for future learning or school. Most children achieve the expected outcomes for their age and some children exceed them. Children are very sociable and enjoy playing with their friends. They develop a good understanding of how to keep themselves safe as they confidently use a range of toys and equipment. Children enjoy using their developing skills, for example, they eagerly count how many children are present each day and are confident to add one more or take one away as others arrive or leave the pre-school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	650109
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10069332
Type of provision	Sessional day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	42
Name of registered person	Newlands Spring Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP905285
Date of previous inspection	14 July 2014
Telephone number	01245 442505

Newlands Spring Pre-school registered in 1982. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday, during school term times. Sessions are from 8.30am to 3pm. There are 10 members of childcare staff and one administrator. Of these, six staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and three staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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