

Sunshine Pre-School

St. Marys Infant & Junior School, Dellsome Lane, HATFIELD, Hertfordshire, AL9 7NE



Inspection date	12 July 2017
Previous inspection date	16 March 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Staff are highly skilled. They help children to manage their feelings and to express them in a positive way. Staff support all children to behave well. They use their training on successful behaviour management to excellent effect.
- The special educational needs coordinator and key persons offer excellent support. Staff work closely with parents and other professionals. They put in place specific plans tailored to children's specific needs that help children to achieve.
- The teaching in adult-led small-group sessions is particularly effective in supporting children to develop their concentration and to share their thoughts and ideas.
- The support for children's communication is exceptional. Staff use a wide variety of strategies to enable all children to express themselves. The teaching has a very positive impact on children's progress and achievement, helping them to overcome any gaps in their learning.
- Partnerships with parents and carers are superb. Staff work very closely with families and other professional to ensure children make the best possible progress.
- Staff successfully evaluate all aspects of their practice. The team benefit from the high level of support from the management team. The regular supervision meetings help staff to identify aspects of already excellent practice that they can enhance.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore further ways to enhance the already very effective transition arrangements to school to help children adjust to some of the aspects that are unfamiliar to them.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the pre-school manager and deputies. She looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents and carers during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Alison Reeves

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The well-qualified team has put in a tremendous amount of time and effort to raise the quality of the provision to an exceptional level. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff understand the decisive action required if there are any concerns about children's well-being. Staff track children's progress extremely closely and take positive steps to help them close any gaps in their learning. Staff work very hard helping children to make the move on to school and have identified how they can improve this even further. Staff provide exceptional opportunities for all children to participate in experiences in all areas of the learning programme. They invite feedback from others and are quick to put in place any new ideas that they can see will help them to support children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Teaching is underpinned by detailed knowledge of how children learn and their specific needs and interests. All staff have very high expectations of what children can achieve. Children have enormous fun at 'The Beach'. They build sandcastles and pretend to paddle. Staff support children to explore their ideas and to recall their experiences of the seaside. Children continue their creative learning as they make underwater themed pictures. They use a wide selection of materials to make complex textured pictures. Children show that they know a lot about life under the waves. The interaction throughout the activities is excellent. Staff balance questioning and narration extremely well. Providing children with ample opportunity to think for themselves and to share their ideas. Staff frequently observe children. They make accurate assessments and devise precise plans for helping children to achieve their next steps in learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Relationships between staff and children are excellent. Staff provide children with the high-quality support and guidance they need. They plan the learning environment so children can make choices and decisions about what they do for themselves. Children learn indoors and outdoors, and gain a firm grounding in how to keep themselves safe. They explain what the sound of the bells means and understand why they wear hats and apply sun cream on sunny days. Children develop high levels of confidence in their abilities and enjoy the praise they receive for their positive attitude to learning and their achievements. Children are friendly, polite and helpful. They are interested in the world around them and enjoy finding out about different people.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make exceptional progress from their starting points. They quickly acquire the valuable skills that they need for the next stage in their learning, such as in school. Children practise getting dressed as part of their pretend play. They demonstrate responsible behaviour as they help to tidy up. Children listen attentively and participate well. They demonstrate their growing understanding of letters and sounds as they match rhyming words. They use numbers in their play to count and organise groups of objects.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY337415
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1092787
Type of provision	Full-time 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	46
Name of registered person	Patricia Bundy
Registered person unique reference number	RP907991
Date of previous inspection	16 March 2015
Telephone number	07966 461549

Sunshine Pre-School registered in 2006. The pre-school employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above, including one with an early years foundation degree. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, during term time. Sessions are between 8.40am until 3.10pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language and children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2017

