

Fairways Pre School Playgroup



c/o Fairways Primary School, The Fairway, LEIGH-ON-SEA, Essex, SS9 4QW

Inspection date	13 October 2017
Previous inspection date	9 July 2013

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 exceptionally patient and caring. They work extremely closely in partnership with parents to help children settle quickly. Children form close attachments to staff who understand their emotional needs well.
- Children's behaviour is excellent. Staff establish successful, consistent boundaries and routines that help children to feel safe and secure. Staff help children learn to become independent. They learn to do things for themselves exceptionally well, such as dressing and tidying away. Children confidently make decisions and lead their own play.
- Children have continuous access to an exceptional range of resources to promote learning in all areas. They have excellent opportunities for make-believe play, this supports their developing skills and stimulates their imagination extremely well.
- High-quality observations and assessments of children's learning, lead to accurate and effective planning for their future progress. Parents and staff work successfully together to identify the next stages in children's learning. Staff effectively exchange information with parents and other settings children attend to maintain an excellent level of continuity and consistency in learning.
- Staff reflect continually on their practice and the effectiveness of their planning. Parents' suggestions for improvements are rapidly implemented and children's views are fully incorporated into planning for future developments.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to build and expand on the already highly successful ways used, to monitor children's progress that maintains the excellent learning outcomes.

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 carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and spoke to children, committee chair and staff.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by speaking with some of them during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the suitability and qualifications of staff, risk assessments, children's records, policies and procedures.

Inspector

Jenny Forbes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Managers and staff share a strong commitment to achieve exceedingly high standards of learning for all children. Managers scrutinise the progress of groups of children to identify any gaps in teaching. They recognise that this careful monitoring can be extended even further, to close any remaining gaps in children's learning swiftly. Staff are especially sensitive to the needs of individual children. They work closely with parents and other professionals to secure highly effective support for children, who may need additional help. Extremely supportive staff supervisory meetings and the sharing of excellent practice leads to an especially high level of consistency in teaching. Staff are well qualified and receive excellent training opportunities, to help them extend their skills and expertise. Safeguarding is effective. Regular training keeps staff up to date with current child protection procedures.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children participate in a diverse range of highly stimulating and challenging activities that motivate them to learn. For example, they learn fascinating facts about the ocean and make sandcastles in a real-life rowing boat sandpit. They eagerly sharpen their pencils and make marks on paper in the make-believe office. Children communicate exceptionally well, staff extend children's learning through skilful questioning techniques and discussion. Children chatter to each other as they work out how long to build a train track and measure it with tapes. Staff encourage children continually to think things out for themselves and solve their own problems. Staff extend children's vocabulary as they explain and describe their activities. They use words, such as 'pummel' and 'poke' as children manipulate dough to exercise their hands in readiness for developing early writing skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children explore with great fascination the exceptionally imaginatively designed garden with its seaside theme and extensive resources. They love searching for bugs and learning about nature. They are thoroughly absorbed as they stir together mud, acorns and leaves. Children adore being outdoors experimenting with a vast and varied array of tactile experiences. They are excited as they chase their friends in toy vehicles. Children grow in confidence, as they try out their physical capabilities and learn how to measure risks to keep themselves safe. They squeal with delight as they swing and climb on apparatus under close supervision from staff. Staff teach children how to grow vegetables and to eat foods that are healthy. They learn about differences and similarities in the world around them and to care for each other.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children's mathematical skills are excellent. They recognise numbers and count them in sequence. They are expert in sorting and matching. Children make outstanding progress and are very well prepared for their move on to school. They learn about letters and sounds, and they enjoy beginning to write their name. Children choose books independently and share with their friends.

Setting details

Unique reference number	119476
Local authority	Southend on Sea
Inspection number	1063577
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	32
Number of children on roll	69
Name of registered person	Fairways Pre-School Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP904848
Date of previous inspection	9 July 2013
Telephone number	01702 421180

Fairways Pre School Playgroup registered in 1978. It is managed by a committee. There are 13 members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday. Sessions are from 8.35am until 11.35am and 12.20pm until 3.20pm. Some children stay during the lunch period. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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