

Micklands Pre-School

c/o Micklands Cp School, Micklands Road, Caversham, READING, RG4 6LU



Inspection date

5 May 2015

Previous inspection date

17 October 2008

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff provide outstanding educational programmes that are tailored to meet the needs of children.
- The quality of teaching is exceptional. Staff consistently ask children questions that encourage them to make predictions and think about consequences. Thorough assessments of children's learning are clearly tracked and show that children make excellent progress.
- Staff form strong bonds with children. Therefore, children feel safe and secure. They settle quickly when they first start at the pre-school and explore the environment confidently.
- Staff are highly skilful at preparing children for school. Children enjoy getting to know their school uniform during imaginary play and dressing up. Parents are advised on how to support children to become emotionally prepared for the change. Teachers are invited to the pre-school to meet the children and children have opportunities to visit their new school.
- Management is highly reflective and evaluates the provision continuously. Parents' and children's views are gathered and changes made to ensure the service evolves to meet their needs effectively.
- Staff provide children with outstanding opportunities to learn about cultural diversity.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the labelling of resources within the environment, to further support early reading development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector toured the areas of the premises children use.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gather their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to the nominated person, the manager and staff during the inspection, to determine their knowledge.
- The inspector sampled policies and documents.

Inspector

Sara Hope

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

Children thoroughly enjoy digging for pirate treasure, riding bikes and making mud pies while developing physical skills. They interact happily with each other and with staff, and have regular opportunities to speak to staff and children from the neighbouring school. Staff praise children and congratulate them on their achievements. Children have excellent opportunities to develop confidence, speaking in smaller groups. Staff are highly enthusiastic. Therefore, children are engaged and motivated to try activities. Staff work with parents to ensure new children settle well. They offer home and settling-in visits with parents and further visits for children if required. Parents share information with staff about their children and have unlimited access to children's development logs. Parents state that they are happy with the service they receive.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

The environment is highly stimulating and welcoming. However, a lack of labels on some resources slightly reduces opportunities to further enhance children's early reading skills. Staff provide children with extremely good methods to develop sharing and negotiation skills. For example, large egg timers are used by children to monitor turn-taking on the bikes in the garden. Children develop independence with toileting and hand washing. They select their own drinks throughout the session. Younger children are offered additional support to meet their needs. Children receive excellent opportunities to exercise and can move freely from indoor to outdoor environments. Staff successfully monitor children during lunch to ensure the food supplied is healthy and that children eat enough.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

The manager and the nominated person have an extensive knowledge of their responsibilities with regards to the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Staff have a thorough understanding of how to safeguard children. They are vigilant and carry out ongoing checks of the environment to ensure children are safe. Management is exceptional at identifying changes to improve the service. For example, a change to how accidents are logged means that these are easier to review. This allows precautions to be implemented promptly to ensure children's safety. Staff receive regular appraisals and one-to-one meetings with management to discuss areas of concern and training. All staff are encouraged to identify training to enhance their practice and to provide better outcomes for children. This ensures that outstanding standards are maintained. Staff form excellent relationships with other professionals. Therefore, advice is gained quickly to minimise gaps in development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY349432
Local authority	Reading
Inspection number	827627
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	50
Name of provider	Micklands Pre School Ltd
Date of previous inspection	17 October 2008
Telephone number	01189 471 976

Micklands Pre-School registered in 2007. It is located in Caversham, Reading. It opens Monday to Friday, between 8.45am and 3.15pm, term time only. Lunch club is available each day. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two-, three- and four-years-old. A total of 12 members of staff are employed to work with children, nine of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications at Level 3. An additional member of staff is employed for administration.

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