

You and Me Preschool

Ashton Place, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 6ST



Inspection dates

Previous inspection date

11 September 2015 - 11 September 2015
23 May 2011

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

- Staff provide children with encouragement and appropriate resources to follow their own ideas in play. Consequently, children are confident decision makers who show high levels of involvement in their learning.
- Children settle quickly and are happy because staff are kind and encouraging, helping children to grow in confidence and feel valued. Children relish opportunities to learn and socialise in mixed age groups, which offers them new experiences and different challenges.
- Children are safeguarded well. The manager and staff understand and follow robust safeguarding procedures to ensure children are kept safe, their good health is promoted and they are protected from harm.
- Children behave well because staff have consistent and clear expectations. They teach children to respect one another and encourage good manners.
- The manager and staff have effective relationships with different agencies and local schools. These result in effective, well-coordinated strategies to promote the good progress of children with developmental delay and consistent approaches to helping children to be ready for school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always use effective questions to encourage children to think for themselves.
- Procedures for the supervision of staff are not yet used in highly effective ways to coach staff and help them to improve their teaching and personal effectiveness further.

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What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- allow children time to think and find their own answers to questions
- strengthen staff supervision to focus even more precisely on improving staff effectiveness and targeting continued professional development, in order to drive the quality of teaching to outstanding.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children both indoors and in the outside areas.
- The inspector met with the manager and other staff during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a selection of children's records, policies and other documents.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents of children who attend the pre-school.

Inspector

Beverley Devlin

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Inspection findings**Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good**

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Children are safe at the nursery as leaders and all staff fully understand their roles and responsibilities to safeguard and promote children's welfare. Information and updates are shared, and a robust induction programme is in place for new staff. This ensures they remain up to date with the correct policies and procedures. Leaders and staff meet regularly and evaluate the provision to ensure children are making the best progress. They build good relationships with parents and other settings including schools to support children as they move on. Leaders and managers undertake regular supervisions with staff. However, these opportunities are not yet sharply focused on improving staff effectiveness and the quality of teaching.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified staff team have a good knowledge of children's skills, abilities and how they learn. They plan activities that follow children's interests and, as a result, children are engaged in their learning and make good progress. Children are well prepared for their transfer to school. Children learn to read, write and use mathematics as they play, which helps them to see the purpose of these skills. Some staff are highly skilled in using questions to prompt children to think for themselves. However, this is not yet consistent across the pre-school because some staff do not yet use questions effectively to allow time for the children to think and respond.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children form close attachments with the kind and attentive staff. Children's health and care needs are clearly understood and they are well looked after. Staff promote children's growing confidence and independence in readiness for their future learning at the nursery and school. Staff foster children's independence skills during mealtimes, hygiene and toileting routines. The indoor and outdoor environments are highly stimulating. Children are highly active explorers outdoors, which shows that their physical well-being is strong. They love to use their own initiative, and the tools provided by staff to collaborate with their peers. Children learn about healthy lifestyles and they are provided with nutritious, balanced meals.

Outcomes for children are good

Management know their staff well and use staff qualifications and knowledge to delegate them to areas of their experience. Consequently, children benefit from skilled staff that plan exciting and challenging learning experiences. As a result, all children are making consistently good rates of progress and are well prepared for the next stage of their education and learning.

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Setting details

Unique reference number	650175
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	869521
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	56
Name of provider	You and Me Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	23 May 2011
Telephone number	01245 466 535

You and Me Preschool opened in 1982 is it situated in Chelmer Village, on the outskirts of Chelmsford, Essex. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday during school term times. On Monday to Thursday it opens from 9.10am until 11.40am and from 12.05pm until 3.05pm. On Friday it opens from 9.15am until 11.45am and from 12.20pm until 2.50pm. The pre-school employs seven members of staff, of whom all but one hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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