

Bright Sparks Pre-School

Hartwood Road, Warley, Brentwood, Essex, CM14 5AE



Inspection date

15 June 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 are deployed well. They provide good supervision and effectively support children in their play and learning.
- For most of the session, children are encouraged to move freely between the indoor and outdoor environment. This enables them to follow their individual interests and they explore and learn using a variety of exciting toys and activities.
- The pre-school staff engage well with other professionals to successfully support children and their families. Older children meet their new teacher and enjoy a good range of activities that helps to prepare them for their move on to school.
- Children have very good opportunities to practise and develop their communication and language skills. Staff engage them in a wide range of conversations about things that interest them and people who are important to them. Staff emphasise the sounds of words in context to support younger children's understanding.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the most effective use of the information gained from assessments of younger children's progress to identify precise next steps in their learning and plan ways to support them to make rapid progress.
- At times, staff do not make the most of opportunities to help older children learn about age-appropriate technology.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make more effective use of rigorous assessments of younger children's progress so that more precise next steps in their learning are identified and planned for to support them to make rapid progress
- strengthen opportunities for older children to learn about age-appropriate technology.

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 provider.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views through feedback provided.

Inspector

Ann Cozzi

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The provider and staff are aware of their responsibilities to protect children. They know what action to take if they have concerns about a child's welfare. The child protection policy is updated in line with local and national changes and shared with staff and parents. All appropriate checks are undertaken on staff to ensure that they are, and remain, suitable to work with children. The provider regularly monitors staff practice. This helps her to effectively recognise and implement measures to support those who are underperforming. Staff and parents talk about how they share their views with the provider. This helps to inform decision making about future improvements. Risk assessments are thorough and daily checks ensure that risks are quickly minimised or removed.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

All children have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of physical play. They have lots of fun developing their imagination and balancing skills. Children excitedly pretend to be pirates sailing across the sea. They climb in and out of their pretend boat and share storylines with others. Older children show good levels of focus and concentration. They refine their hand-to-eye coordination, carefully rolling up paper and sticking it with tape to make a sword. Staff provide children with plenty of opportunities to learn and develop their mathematical skills. For example, they competently match numbers with quantity as they count how many children are in the role play area. Children quickly estimate how many cups are in the stack that they are holding.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop very firm bonds with their key persons and other staff. They are excited to share learning experiences with them and are confident to approach staff if they need support. Staff give daily feedback and hold monthly meetings with parents to share information about children's development. Parents report that the established staff team is very caring, thoughtful and fun. Staff manage children's behaviour well. They help them to learn what is and is not acceptable and to understand the consequences of their actions and their effect on others. For instance, children know that someone might trip over if they do not tidy toys away after use. Healthy options at snack time and good hygiene routines help to promote children's well-being. They understand that washing their hands helps to prevent germs.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who speak English as an additional language and those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, make good progress from their starting points. Children enjoy taking part in activities, such as construction, that help them to develop the small muscles required for writing. Children are developing the essential skills needed for their next stage of learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY486824
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1007003
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	35
Number of children on roll	75
Name of registered person	Wishing Wells Day Care Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP534400
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07901191685

Bright Sparks Pre-School registered in 2015. The pre-school employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, eleven hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above, including the provider, who has early years professional status. Sessions are from 9.15am until 3.30pm Monday to Thursday, and from 9.15am until 1pm on Friday. The pre-school opens during school term time and for two weeks during school holidays. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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