

Dilton Marsh Pre School

The Mobile, High Street, Dilton Marsh, Westbury, Wiltshire, BA13 4DY



Inspection date

16 March 2016

Previous inspection date

27 February 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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

- The playleader has made good progress in addressing the actions raised at the last inspection. For example, staff are now consistent in completing assessments and this has had a positive impact on monitoring and planning for children's progress.
- Staff engage well with children as they play and positively support their mathematical development. Children make good progress in their learning.
- Children have good opportunities to explore and investigate. They enthusiastically join in outside play together. Visitors to the pre-school, for example, positively promote children's knowledge and understanding of the world.
- Staff praise children constantly and promote their high levels of self-esteem. For example, children are keen to talk to visitors and show them around their pre-school.
- The playleader is responsive to the views of parents, who report that their children are enjoying pre-school and learning the basic skills necessary for school.
- Staff are good role models and give children clear messages about making healthy choices, such as why it is important to clean their teeth.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always give children enough time to think and respond to questions, to further develop their speaking and listening skills.
- Staff have not formed strong links with the primary school. They do not always pass on valuable information about children's achievements to fully support a smooth transfer to their next stage of education.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give children enough time to think and answer questions so that they have opportunities to develop their communication skills even further
- strengthen links with the primary school to share valuable information about children's achievements and fully support a smooth transfer to their next stage of education.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities inside and outside, including the quality of teaching.
- The inspector talked to the children and held discussions with both members of staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of staff practice and discussed it with the playleader.
- The inspector looked at a selection of documentation, children's assessment information, policies and procedures, and evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Jennifer Cutler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The playleader and her deputy have a good working relationship and support one another in improving outcomes for children. They reflect well on the quality of provision and identify targets to promote the learning and development of all children. They have knowledge and experience of child protection procedures if they are concerned about the safety and well-being of a child in their care. Safeguarding is effective. Staff training has a positive impact on practice and enhances children's learning and development. For example, a behaviour management course has helped staff to enable children to resolve disputes amicably. Staff work well with other agencies and ensure that every child makes the best possible progress. Staff have good relationships with parents, keeping them well informed and able to help their children's learning at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make good observations and assessments of children at play. They monitor children's progress and plan a broad range of activities to support their next steps in learning. Children make good progress and are keen to write or join in mathematical activities. For example, some children enjoy writing letters of the alphabet and can begin to sound out words in preparation for reading; others can write their names. Children are very enthusiastic about dressing up and use their imagination when they pretend to be members of the police force. Outside activities positively promote children's knowledge and understanding of the world. For example, they enthusiastically investigate what happens when they pour water down pipes and tubes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have warm relationships with staff, which contributes to their emotional well-being. Staff care for them very well and teach them how to keep healthy and safe, for example, how to 'stop, drop and roll' in the case of a fire. Children learn to accept responsibility by acting as the 'Helper of the Week' and by carrying out daily safety checks of the premises and resources with an adult. Staff positively promote children's confidence and self-esteem. They give them constant praise and celebrate their achievements. Staff sensitively intervene and talk to the children about feelings and how to manage their behaviour positively. Children are happy and secure at pre-school.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are well supported and make good progress. They are keen to learn and are developing essential skills that will help them in their future learning. They are developing independence, such as by learning important information like their own address. Children enjoy coming to pre-school and become creative learners, for example, when they practise cutting and sticking with concentration and perseverance.

Setting details

Unique reference number	145858
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	1028045
Type of provision	Sessional 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	24
Number of children on roll	16
Name of provider	Dilton Marsh Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	27 February 2013
Telephone number	01373 826693

Dilton Marsh Pre-School opened in 1983 and operates from a mobile classroom in the grounds of Dilton Marsh Primary School. It opens five days a week from 9am to 3pm, term time only. The setting is in receipt of funding for the provision of early education for children aged three and four years. The two members of staff who work with the children hold childcare qualifications at level 3.

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