

Happy Tots Pre School

Landseer Road Methodist Church, Landseer Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP3 9LX



Inspection date	12 December 2017
Previous inspection date	21 October 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities are well supported. The manager and her team work closely with parents and other professionals, gaining a wealth of information to help provide continuity of care and learning for them.
- Children flourish in the extremely caring, safe and secure environment. Staff fully understand the needs of the children and their families. Parents are very appreciative of the exceptional lengths staff go to tailor the provision to meet the needs of all children.
- The manager supervises staff very effectively. They feel happy, well supported and able to have their say. She seeks their opinions about improvements that will have the most impact on children's experience at the setting.
- Staff carefully and accurately check children's progress. They engage children's interests and support them in becoming motivated learners. All children make good progress.
- Staff promote children's independence exceptionally well. They support children to manage risks for themselves, such as when children sweep up the ice to make the outside area safe. Children demonstrate extremely high levels of confidence. They are eager to explore their environment.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff do not recognise when to extend the learning of the most able children to promote their rapid progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- help staff to recognise and act upon opportunities that arise to extend the learning of most-able children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the pre-school and outdoor area. She assessed the impact activities have on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the pre-school manager. She looked at relevant documents and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke to children and staff during the inspection to obtain their views.

Inspector

Jemma Hudson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff are vigilant about changes in children's behaviour and general appearance. They are quick to act if they have any concerns about their welfare. Staff have a good understanding of the whistle-blowing policy at the pre-school. They are clear about how to seek advice from appropriate professionals if they have any concerns about the behaviour of colleagues. The manager works well to support the professional development of staff. The staff use the ideas they gain from training to enhance their own practice and improve children's outcomes. Self-evaluation is effective. The manager and her team are passionate about providing high-quality childcare and demonstrate a strong commitment to ongoing continual improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are confident in their understanding of how young children learn. They are skilled at providing interesting and stimulating activities for children. They engage children's interests and support them in becoming motivated learners. They use their good knowledge of children's individual achievements to plan interesting play activities that enhance their learning. Staff support children well to build their language and communication skills. Staff help younger children and those who speak English as an additional language to make connections in their learning. For instance, they use gestures, body language and signs to explain what needs to be done.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children thrive and their emotional well-being is given the highest priority in this nurturing pre-school. Arrangements to support children's settling in are highly effective. Staff obtain a wealth of information from parents at the start and use this to ensure that each child has an individualised plan which meets their needs. Children's physical development is extremely well planned for and staff reinforce the benefits of healthy eating and exercise. For example, staff have developed a unique dance programme for children to teach them a range of dance skills. Children's independence is promoted extremely well. They confidently prepare and serve themselves snacks and discuss the healthy items in their lunchboxes. Behaviour is excellent, as all staff are positive role models. Their calm approach ensures that children feel highly valued.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy listening to stories. They become confident communicators as they take part in high-quality discussions overall and hear a wide range of vocabulary. Children receive effective support to develop the skills they need for their future learning and the eventual move on to school. Children who start in the pre-school with lower than expected levels of development progress well to catch up with their peers.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY316234
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	1104415
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	38
Number of children on roll	82
Name of registered person	Happy Tots Pre-School Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP523514
Date of previous inspection	21 October 2014
Telephone number	01473 290290

Happy Tots Pre-School opened in 1981. It is managed by a voluntary committee. The pre-school employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, two staff hold recognised early years qualifications at level 6, one at level 5, two at level 4, nine at level 3 and two at level 2. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday, during school term time. Sessions are from 8.15am until 4pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports children who speak English as an additional language and children who have SEN and/or disabilities.

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