

Inspection of Shrewton Pre-school

Tanners Lane, Shrewton, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP3 4JT

Inspection date: 13 July 2021

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children arrive happily and settle quickly in the welcoming pre-school environment. They have lots of free choice and decide for themselves if to play inside or outside. Children excitedly build towers with large bricks and problem solve as they work well together to balance large tyres. They develop confidence and independence as they follow their interests and share close relationships with one another and the staff.

Staff have high expectations of the children, including those who have Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND). Children are enthusiastic, curious, and eager to explore. Whether they are digging in the mud to find insects or observing pond life they are respectful of one another and play well together.

During the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, the setting remained open for some children. For those children that were unable to attend staff maintained contact to continue to support those families and help them feel included. Although parents do not currently come into the setting, they receive daily information about their child's day. Staff encourage parents to complete 'what I did at home' forms so that they can recognise and celebrate children's achievements at home. Since the setting has reopened to all children, staff continue to remain focused on supporting children's social development and emotional well-being.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Staff get to know the children well. Staff find out what children already know and can do. They plan a wide and varied curriculum based on children's interests and next steps in learning to support them in making good progress.
- Children excitedly look at and explore different animal play figures. Children confidently look through books to help them identify which animals live in which environment. Staff introduce initial sounds of words as they engage the children in conversation and begin to match letters to the sound that they make. For example, the sound 't' for tadpole.
- Overall children's behaviour is good. They have a good understanding of right and wrong and staff use effective strategies to help children think about and manage their behaviour successfully. Staff encourage children to talk about their emotions, using a book about a monster which links colours to different feelings. However, staff do not always communicate effectively between themselves during large group activities. As a result, children are not clear of what staff expect of them, they lose concentration and noise levels rise.
- The manager and staff regularly reflect on the provision and their practice. They review and reassess areas of the pre-school frequently to ensure that children use it well to support their learning. They regularly seek out training

opportunities to ensure they have the most current and up-to-date information. For example, the manager is planning on learning more about how to promote the good oral health of children, to further support children's health and well-being.

- Staff recognise the importance of effective partnerships with parents, and the positive impact this has on children's learning and well-being. Parents are very complimentary about the staff and the provision. They are enthusiastic about the care and support provided for their children and the progress their children make.
- Children take part in a wide range of activities and have a good variety of learning experiences which they thoroughly enjoy. They paint pictures of items they find on a nature walk. Children ride on wheeled vehicles in the school playground, skilfully negotiating pathways. They help one another find the matching card for their shopping game. However, children have less opportunity to count, use numbers, compare size, and identify shapes.
- Staff support children's communication and language skills well and encourage their imagination successfully. Staff repeat words back to children correctly, so they hear the correct pronunciation. They introduce new words such as 'centipede' as the children look for bugs and insects in the garden. Children enjoy making the staff 'coffee' and 'ice-cream', which they sell from the playhouse outside. Children confidently tell the inspector they are 'mad about tractors' when talking about what they like to do at pre-school.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a secure understanding of their role and responsibility to keep children safe. They are knowledgeable about child protection issues and know what to do if they have a concern about a child's welfare. They understand wider safeguarding issues and know what to look out for. Staff carry out thorough risk assessments and remove hazards to minimise risks to children. They supervise children well and talk to them about how to keep themselves safe, for instance when they run inside.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- improve the organisation of large group times so that all children know what is expected of them, remain focused and concentrate
- develop further strategies for children to count, compare size and identify shapes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	146008
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	10133572
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	22
Name of registered person	Shrewton Pre School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP901994
Telephone number	01980 636008
Date of previous inspection	2 December 2019

Information about this early years setting

Shrewton Pre-school opened in 1974. The pre-school is situated in Shrewton Primary School, Shrewton, Wiltshire. The pre-school is open term time only on Monday and Friday from 9am to 1pm, and on Tuesday and Thursday from 9am to 3pm. From Easter, the pre-school runs a Wednesday morning session from 9am to 1pm, specifically for the children going to school. There are six members of staff. The manager has an early years foundation degree and all other staff hold appropriate early years qualifications. In addition, the pre-school employs an administration assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Michelle Heimsoth

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the setting and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector and the manager completed a learning walk and discussed how the curriculum is organised.
- The manager and the inspector completed a joint observation.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children to get their views about the setting.
- The inspector held discussions with staff and the manager at appropriate times throughout the inspection.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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