

Woodford Methodist Pre-School



Methodist Church, Greenway Avenue, Plymouth, Devon, PL7 4RR

Inspection date	19 January 2015
Previous inspection date	23 June 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The quality of teaching across the pre-school is outstanding. Staff maximise learning opportunities during routines and activities, ensuring all children make excellent progress.
- Staff provide an exceptional range of high-quality learning experiences for children, inside and outdoors. As a result, children are highly motivated, confident learners.
- Children's individual care needs are always met extremely well and children form strong attachments with staff.
- Partnerships with parents are highly effective. Staff keep parents well-informed about children's achievements and involve them in setting targets for future development.
- The manager and staff are experienced and extremely committed to driving improvement. They work together as a highly effective team to provide the best possible care for children and families.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to see and use numbers and letters outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning, both inside and out.
- The inspector completed several joint observations with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager and administrator, and looked at relevant documentation, such as the pre-school's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Margaret Baird

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

Staff plan outstanding learning opportunities, which children explore eagerly. Children have time to play and experiment, enabling them to remain focused on activities and develop their concentration. Staff expertly support children's ideas in play; they are always nearby to develop learning through skilled questioning and by adding resources. For example, children playing outside decided to roll a tyre down a ramp, estimating how far it would roll, and finding ways to make it go further. This helps them develop skills for future learning, such as asking questions and solving problems. Staff promote children's literacy extremely well, ensuring that books are an important part of learning experiences. There are lots of interesting opportunities for children to paint and write. Indoors, resources and displays support children to become familiar with letters and numbers. However, this learning is not reinforced as well outside. Planning and assessment fully involves parents and focuses on children's needs. Staff work in close partnership with other professionals to support children, enabling them to make the best possible progress.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

The experienced staff team skilfully support children's emotional development. New children settle quickly and consistent staffing arrangements ensure children can readily seek comfort from trusted carers when needed. Staff are extremely good role models and are caring and considerate towards children, constantly supporting them to learn, to share and take turns. As a result, children form strong friendships and behaviour is exemplary. Managers ensure that all staff implement policies and safe working practices exceptionally well to support children's health, safety and well-being. The outdoor area is rich with opportunities for children to explore the natural world and develop their physical skills. This helps to promote healthy lifestyles, enabling them to thrive.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

The manager and staff provide the best possible standards of care for children and families. Arrangements for recruiting new staff are robust. Regular supervision and sharing of good practice leads to a high level of consistency. Staff develop their skills through an effective training programme, which means that children benefit from fresh approaches to learning. Staff use their expert knowledge to monitor children's development. This means that any learning needs are recognised, and children and parents are supported very promptly. The manager and staff are reflective of their practice, constantly striving to improve so that children receive a rich and challenging range of activities. Effective self-evaluation includes the views of children, parents and other professionals, and accurately identifies how the pre-school can improve even further. Parents speak very highly of staff; they appreciate their care and the family atmosphere they provide.

Setting details

Unique reference number	117249
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	846126
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	39
Number of children on roll	54
Name of provider	Woodford Methodist Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	23 June 2010
Telephone number	01752 337335

Woodford Methodist Pre-School registered in 1963 and is managed by a committee of parents. The group meets in the Woodford Methodist Church Hall in Woodford, a residential area of Plympton, Devon. The pre-school has the use of the large main hall, a smaller room, and a fully enclosed garden area. The pre-school share the toilet facilities and kitchen with other users of the premises. In term times the pre-school operates every weekday from 8am to 3pm, including a breakfast club. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four. The pre-school employ 12 members of staff, including an administrator, with most staff holding a relevant early years qualification. During three weeks of the summer holidays the pre-school offers a holiday club.

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