

St Hugh's Pre-School Play Centre



St. Hughs Church Hall, Harewood Crescent, North Hykeham, Lincoln, LN6 8JG

Inspection date 19 January 2015
Previous inspection date 10 July 2009

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The quality of teaching across the nursery is good. Staff provide an interesting range of fun learning experiences for children, both inside and out. As a result, children are keen and eager to learn.
- The children are actively encouraged to make their own decisions, lead their own play and voice their opinions. Therefore, they have a real ownership of their own learning and make very good progress.
- The staff show the utmost respect for the children. This has a positive impact on children's behaviour, which is very good. They play harmoniously with one another and are able to tolerate small mishaps easily without staff intervening.
- Excellent partnerships between parents and the pre-school staff ensure parents are well informed about their child's developmental progress.
- The management team are effective in evaluating and monitoring the provision, supporting staff immediately to make improvements. The staff team work well together and are committed to giving children a good-quality education.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children are not always well supported to learn about the world around them. Experiments are not enhanced to enable children to investigate how things happen or what may happen next.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide further opportunities for children to find out about the world through explorations, investigations and by fully questioning how things work and finding out what will happen next.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching.
- The inspector held meetings with the two managers.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with a manager.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children and the provider's procedures for self-evaluation.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Sharon Waterfall

Inspection findings

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

Staff use their strong knowledge of how children learn and their skilful teaching to provide a good range of activities in all seven areas of learning. The session structure is organised to enable them to have time to focus and play freely. Staff do not consistently enhance activities to enable children to learn about the world around them. However, when children find ice in a puddle, staff do build on their interest and support the children to investigate how and why this happens. But staff do not maximise every opportunity in doing so. Staff place good focus on supporting children's language skills, by asking questions that make the children think. Children are well supported to develop early reading and writing skills. They have good access to resources to make marks and write during their play. These activities develop the skills children will need for their next stage of learning when they begin school. Daily routines are used to good effect to help children develop their mathematical skills. Planning and assessment arrangements are sharply focused on every child's needs and are shared frequently with all staff and parents to ensure every child makes good progress.

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

Children's emotional well-being is fostered by a caring staff team. Arrangements to enable children to settle into the pre-school are individual to each child and their family. Staff are very good role models and show respect for children's needs and interests. In turn, the children behave very well. The children are constantly busy, the atmosphere in the pre-school is calm and all children are productive and focused. Staff are deployed well to support children's safety and development both inside and outside. Managers have an excellent understanding of their responsibilities to safeguard children. They ensure all staff implement policies and safe working practices extremely well to support children's health, safety and well-being. Healthy lifestyles are encouraged as children choose from a range of nutritious snacks and have daily opportunities for outdoor play, where they develop their physical skills on large play equipment.

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

The management team are a strong partnership; they work to their strengths to provide good-quality provision for children and their families. Staff work well in partnership with outside agencies to safeguard children's welfare. Arrangements for recruitment, staff supervisions and regular meetings are effective in ensuring there is a good level of consistency in practice. Monitoring processes for the staff and educational programmes are robust. The managers review assessments and evaluate each child's progress on a monthly basis. Therefore, any potential learning needs are recognised and met quickly. Staff development is addressed through regular training and support. Staff are well qualified and experienced; this impacts positively on their ability to plan and provide an interesting educational programme. Self-evaluation is embedded and inclusive of the whole staff team. Realistic targets are set to focus on improvements such as, developing a

canopy for the outdoor area to enable children to take part in outdoor play in all weathers.

Setting details

Unique reference number	253570
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	866761
Type of provision	
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	28
Name of provider	St Hugh's Pre-School Play Centre Partnership
Date of previous inspection	10 July 2009
Telephone number	07804451594

St Hugh's Pre-School Play Centre registered in 1984 and operates from St Hugh's Church Hall in North Hykeham, Lincoln. Opening times are, Monday and Wednesday from 9:10am until 3:10pm and, Tuesday and Thursday from 9:10am until 12:10pm. The pre-school is closed on a Friday. The group receives funding for two-, three- and four-year-olds. Of the five staff who work with the children, four hold relevant childcare qualifications.

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