

# Little Dolphins Pre School

Goldolphin Primary School, Godolphin Crescent, Godolphin Cross, Helston, Cornwall,  
TR13 9RB



<b>Inspection date</b>	9 February 2015
Previous inspection date	9 December 2009

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Flexible settling-in routines result in children feeling comfortable and safe at the pre-school, where they develop in confidence and independence.
- The detailed information staff seek from parents at enrolment, enables them to establish children's starting points quickly and plan effectively for their future learning.
- Partnership with other providers involved with the children ensures that together, they can provide continuity of learning experiences.
- Staff use their knowledge from recent training well to extend and improve their delivery of promoting children's literacy and communication skills.
- Staff and the reception teacher of the host school work effectively together to prepare children for starting school.
- The recently appointed manager works well with the committee and staff, identifying areas for development and working through their action plan together to make improvements to practice.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Disputes sometimes arise when too many children attempt to use the same resources or space. This is because staff do not always support them well enough so they learn how to negotiate and wait turns successfully.
- Staff do not always use sign language regularly to extend ways for children to communicate.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support children more in sharing space and resources so they learn to negotiate and understand how long they will have when using the resources
- make better use of sign language to extend ways for children to communicate.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playroom and the outdoor play area.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with staff and the host school's reception teacher.
- The inspector sampled documentation regarding planning and children's progress.
- The inspector checked documents relating to the suitability and qualifications of staff.

### Inspector

Lynne Bowden

## Inspection findings

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

Staff value parents' involvement in their children's learning. They use various sources to assess the level of each child's development. This enables staff to plan and provide activities and experiences to promote children's good progress across all areas of learning. At snack time, children recognise their names as they find their place settings. They enjoy the responsibility of being a special helper, who counts how many plates and cups they need and hands them round to their friends. All children attempt to pour their own drinks and spread butter and jam on their toast. They select a piece of fruit, and those choosing citrus fruits, attempt to peel their own. These activities build children's social skills, sense of self-esteem and independence, and help them see the practical use of mathematics and reading. Staff encourage children to speak to a group of friends to describe the things they bring in for show and tell time. This activity supports children's communication skills well in both listening and talking. Children's developing confidence, independence and communication skills equip them well for their future learning. Staff do not always support children effectively to learn to share space and resources with each other. They do not always teach children negotiating skills or help them understand how long they will have using the resources. For example, they do not provide equipment for children to measure the passage of time and or limit the number children that use an activity at any one time. This means minor disputes occasionally occur.

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

Staff know children well and have warm relationships with them. This results in children happily approaching adults and confidently exploring the environment. The premises are welcoming with easy access to the secure outdoor play space where children enjoy energetic play. Staff teach children healthy and safe practices. Children learn about different lifestyles and cultures and are beginning to learn some sign language. However, staff do not use this routinely throughout the sessions. Children generally behave well. This is because staff intervene and remind them of the need to share.

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

The committee support staff development well to attend regular training and visit outstanding providers to observe their practice. This allows them to adapt and improve their own practices. The committee follows appropriate systems to check the suitability of staff and new committee members. Staff have a good understanding of child protection procedures and their responsibilities to safeguard children. They carry out daily safety checks of the premises to keep children safe. Effective systems for assessment and planning result in children having good quality care and learning opportunities. Systems to monitor children's learning ensure that all make good progress across all areas of learning.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY288333
<b>Local authority</b>	Cornwall
<b>Inspection number</b>	837539
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	16
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	20
<b>Name of provider</b>	Little Dolphins Pre School Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	9 December 2009
<b>Telephone number</b>	07799721377

Little Dolphins Pre-School is a committee run group that opened in 2004. It operates from a classroom within Godolphin School in the village of Godolphin Cross, near Helston in Cornwall. The pre-school is open Monday and Tuesday from 9am until 3pm and Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9am until 12pm, during term times only. The pre-school receives early years education funding for two-, three- and four-year-old children. There are five members of staff, of whom three have early years qualifications at level 3 and two have a level 2 qualification.

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