

Krakatoa Pre-school

Jubilee Hall, High Street, Lewknor, Watlington, Oxfordshire, OX49 5TL



Inspection date	27 February 2015
Previous inspection date	24 May 2010

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

- Children have excellent opportunities to develop their musical and dance skills. Staff expertise in this area allows children to have high quality music and movement sessions on a daily basis.
- Staff have strong partnerships with parents, who are encouraged to get actively involved in the pre-school and share their child's achievements from home.
- Children enjoy a variety of well-planned activities that reflect their interests and meet their needs. There is a large variety of toys and resources, stored in low containers, that encourage children to choose for themselves what they want and, therefore, take control of the direction of their play.
- Close working relationships with other professionals ensure children receive consistent and targeted support. This means children with additional needs are well supported and make good progress.
- The staff create a warm and welcoming environment. Children settle quickly and form good relationships with adults and other children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always effectively support children working in large groups to keep their concentration and stay focused, to help them fully engage in their learning.
- There are few words, signs and numbers on display around the environment to reinforce children's awareness that print carries meaning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of group times to ensure children receive appropriate support from staff to encourage them to stay focused throughout the session
- introduce more opportunities for children to see letters, words and numbers in the indoor and outdoor environment, to support their understanding of print carrying meaning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children during their free choice play, in group times and during staff interactions with them.
- The inspector sampled documents including policies, registers and records of children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took into account their views.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector and the manager conducted a joint observation.

Inspector

Natasha Crellin

Inspection findings

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

Children make good progress as staff plan exciting activities that reflect their interests and stages of development. Staff complete assessments that accurately measure children's progress. They take close account of children's learning at home and have good relationships with parents. Children keep fit and develop strength and coordination as they run around outdoors and play organised games, such as, 'What's the time Mr Wolf'. They enjoy digging for worms and staff develop children's interests by helping them create homes for mini beasts. Children listen to and play an exciting range of musical instruments, such as the Cimbala. This develops their music appreciation. Staff interact well with children, demonstrating good language and being positive role models. Children generally behave well. However, occasionally during large group times, children struggle to remain focussed and concentrated on what they are doing without being distracted.

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

Children settle quickly each day due to strong emotional bonds with their key person. Children are confident and active learners. Their self-esteem is enhanced when staff praise them for success in their learning or for making good choices in their behaviour. Children learn about healthy eating as they eat nutritious snacks, such as mixed fruit, milk and water. They learn good self-help skills as they practise doing up zips on their coats. This develops their independence and prepares them for when they move up to school. A large variety of toys and resources are available to children. However, there are limited examples of words, signs or numbers on display around the setting to enhance children's awareness that print carries meaning.

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

The manager and her staff work as a close and supportive team. Staff work together to identify and address areas for development and these, as well as regular team meetings, encourage all staff to contribute to the self-evaluation process. This ensures they are continually improving. Staff regularly attend training to develop their practice. They have most recently attended a language course, and work in collaboration with the local school. This has developed their teaching skills. The manager has a good understanding of how to develop learning in the pre-school. She reviews children's assessments and ensures all children are making consistently good progress. Children are kept safe through a variety of measures. These include written policies, daily risk assessing, reviewing site security and staff completing training. There are robust recruitment processes completed to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. Staff understand their responsibilities to protect children and are aware of the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY232687
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	832811
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	19
Name of provider	Krakatoa Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	24 May 2010
Telephone number	07919 081088

Krakatoa Pre-School opened in 1998. It operates from a large hall in a community centre, in the small village of Lewknor, Oxfordshire. The pre-school is open each weekday morning from 9am to 1pm, term time only. The setting is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four. The nursery employs four members of staff, who all hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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