

Holly Hedgehog Preschool

Crawley Baptist Church, Crabtree Road, Crawley, West Sussex, RH11 7HJ



Inspection date

23 March 2015

Previous inspection date

20 October 2011

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 manager and staff have a good understanding of how to meet the safeguarding and welfare requirements. All staff are checked as to their suitability and regularly refresh their knowledge on child protection.
- The manager and staff have a strong understanding of how to meet the learning and development requirements. They promote children's own ideas in general play and plan very effective small group activities to boost particular skills.
- Staff include physical activities indoors as well as out so children always have somewhere for vigorous play. This helps those children who are very active to stay engaged in play and promotes all children's physical development and well-being.
- Staff are very attentive to children's individual needs and take account of their moods and feelings. This helps children to settle and feel secure, which promotes their well-being.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff keep parents informed about how their children develop but do not give parents suggestions so they can build on their children's learning at home.
- Staff give children clear boundaries so that they know what is expected of them. However, staff do not consistently ask children to think about why the rules are in place.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the partnership with parents by sharing ideas about how parents can complement their children's learning at home
- refine staff's behaviour management skills to fully engage children in thinking about the consequences of their actions.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at play indoors and outside.
- The inspector examined a range of documentation including staff suitability checks and children's records.
- The inspector and manager carried out a joint observation.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gather their views.

Inspector

Susan McCourt

Inspection findings

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

Staff work with parents when children first start in order to establish children's current achievements. They then plan a well-balanced range of activities to engage children in play to promote their learning. Staff make regular summary reviews of children's progress to share with parents and identify children's next steps. Staff invite parents to bring in objects related to topics and themes, but do not give parents ideas to extend children's learning at home. Staff are very effective at developing children's language skills. They spend a lot of time talking with children and develop long conversations about shared interests. This encourages children to describe their experiences about going to the doctor, or dressing up. For example, children used words such as stethoscope, x-ray and injection. As a result, children are confident talkers and have a good vocabulary.

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

Staff are very effective key persons for children and tailor the settling-in process to suit each individual family. They provide a warm and comforting presence for children who may be upset which helps to calm and soothe them. The small staff team create a family atmosphere where they all know each child very well. This promotes children's emotional development. Children enjoy growing food and taking part in food preparation as part of a healthy diet. Staff are very skilled at creating a strong learning environment. They consider how children of different abilities will engage in play and provide a wide range of equipment for children to choose from independently. They also enrich activities, such as role play by adding reading or writing opportunities, telephones and maps. This enables children to play for extended periods of time alongside each other or cooperatively. Overall, children acquire the skills they need for future learning.

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

The manager and staff have consistent skills in assessing children's learning and accurately track their development due to a shared understanding gained through their qualifications. Staff share what they learn on courses with each other. For example, they adapted the learning environment to engage younger children alongside more able children. The manager monitors staff's work by holding regular supervision meetings and an annual appraisal. This helps staff to identify their professional development needs and enhance their skills through coaching and mentoring. All staff carry out observations on each other, which means that they learn from each other and achieve very consistent practice. The manager has well-targeted action plans to help staff address recommendations from the last inspection as well as achieving their own goals for improvement. The manager and staff have strong links with the community, which help to underpin children's welfare.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY281074
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	833559
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	22
Name of provider	Amanda Euronwy Kelly
Date of previous inspection	20 October 2011
Telephone number	07745 226689

Holly Hedgehog Preschool registered in 2004. It is located at the Crawley Baptist Church, in Crawley, West Sussex. They receive funding for free early education sessions for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school is open during term time only on Monday, Thursday and Friday from 9.30am to 2.30pm. A team of five staff work with the children, all of whom have relevant childcare qualifications.

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