

Orchard Vale Nursery School



Orchard Vale Community School, Westacott Road, BARNSTAPLE, Devon, EX32 8QY

Inspection date 29 April 2015
Previous inspection date 6 May 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

- Children make rapid progress in their learning and development because the quality of teaching is outstanding. Staff expertly use the observation, assessment and planning process. This enables them to precisely monitor children's progress and plan rich activities and experiences, which fully support children's needs, abilities and interests.
- Safeguarding children is of the highest priority. Senior managers, the supervisor and staff know how to respond quickly should they have any concerns about a child's welfare. This is because policies and procedures underpin the setting's high-quality daily practice. Consequently, children are protected from harm.
- Staff closely monitor and expertly track children's learning styles and development. They clearly identify and plan for children's next steps in learning and have highly effective strategies to ensure children make excellent progress.
- Children have exceptional relationships with staff. Staff embed the nurturing of children as part of their ethos and practice, ensuring that they fully meet all children's individual emotional needs.
- Children and their families are highly valued. Well-established partnerships with parents enhance the staff's knowledge of children's individual needs. Parents are actively engaged in their children's learning and work consistently with staff to maximise their children's experiences.
- The senior leadership team is highly effective. Their vision of the setting is inspiring and their exceptional motivation to continually improve the provision is first class. Their review of the quality of children's experiences drives through highly effective improvements.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- further enhance opportunities for children to discuss shapes in their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff interactions and teaching with children, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with staff, the supervisor and the school senior management team.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies, qualification certificates and children's learning records.
- The inspector reviewed the self-evaluation and school monitoring documentation.
- The inspector spoke with some parents to gain their views on the day of inspection.

Inspector

Katherine Lamb

Inspection findings

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

Staff have a highly efficient understanding of how children develop and learn. They use their top quality teaching skills to extend children's learning, ensuring children make exceptional progress towards the early learning goals. Children confidently make choices in their play and engage in activities that successfully progress their learning. Younger children engage in enriched singing experiences that extend their language and communication skills well. Staff provide a first-class language rich environment. They commentate as children play to extend children's vocabulary. For example, talking to them about what they see when they mix colours or guessing which animal is making the sound that they can hear. On occasion, staff do not always use the correct terminology to describe shapes children use. Staff successfully incorporate learning into every child's play, enabling them to develop the skills needed for positive future learning experiences.

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

Staff promote children's emotional development extremely effectively. All children are very happy and content because staff are excellent role models. The superb key-person system supports children efficiently. Staff have an exceptional knowledge of the children and use this to ensure each child flourishes. A clear and well established settling-in process helps children adapt to their new environment quickly. Behaviour is exemplary. Staff use positive reinforcement techniques that show children the importance of considering other people's feelings. Children take safe risks under the careful watch of highly competent staff, for example, learning to walk on balancing blocks. Children benefit from being outdoors daily. Staff enhance their learning effectively in the garden through stimulating outdoor activities. Children are extremely well supported in their health, safety and well-being.

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

Leadership and management are inspirational. The senior management team and the supervisor fully understand the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Robust recruitment and induction procedures ensure adults working with the children are suitable. The senior management team and staff have a strong drive to maintain the highest level of care and learning opportunities for all children. Self-evaluation is thorough, enabling the setting to make continuous improvements. Staff embrace a wide range of training to update their knowledge and skills, applying what they have learnt and changing their practice as necessary. For example, staff have improved their already strong assessment system. Supervision and training appraisals further complement staff's professional development and enhance their outstanding practice. Partnerships with parents are excellent and they speak highly of the exceptional care provided.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY399043
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	986504
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 3
Total number of places	7
Number of children on roll	18
Name of provider	Orchard Vale Community School Governing Body
Date of previous inspection	6 May 2010
Telephone number	01271 375074

Orchard Vale Nursery School registered in 2009. It operates from Orchard Vale Community School, in Barnstaple, Devon. The nursery is open every weekday, from 8.30am to 3.30pm, during school term time. They are in receipt of the early education funding for two- and three-year-old children. There are currently four members of staff; two have a level 3 qualification in childcare and two have a level 2.

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