

Hemyock Pre-School

Hemyock Primary School, Parklands, Hemyock, CULLOMPTON, Devon, EX15 3RY



Inspection date

13 May 2015

Previous inspection date

3 February 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 quality of teaching is good because staff know the children well. Planning, observation and assessment accurately reflect children's learning and progress. Staff effectively monitor children's development and target their next steps in learning to ensure all children continue to make good progress.
- Children are happy and settled in the pre-school. The caring and friendly staff are committed to providing a warm and welcoming place for children to explore. As a result, children feel emotionally secure and are motivated to learn.
- The management team and staff have a thorough understanding of their role in protecting children's welfare. Staff have a good knowledge of safeguarding policies. Additionally, strong safeguarding procedures include effective staff deployment and daily risk assessments. This means that children can explore and play safely.
- Effective partnerships with parents result in key persons developing strong relationships with families. Good partnerships with other settings children attend allow the sharing of purposeful information about children's needs amongst all carers. Therefore, staff meet children's needs well and help move them on to the next stage in their learning, including to school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always use questioning well to extend children's learning and thinking skills by asking 'what?', 'why?' and 'how?', for example.
- Staff do not always manage snack time well, and encourage all children to use good table manners.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve staff questioning techniques to extend children's language and thinking skills
- review the organisation of snack time to promote positive table manners with all children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching and interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector spoke with staff, the manager and management team.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies, suitability checks, qualification certificates and children's learning folders.
- The inspector reviewed self-evaluation for the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke with some parents and carers on the day of inspection to gain their views.

Inspector

Katherine Lamb

Inspection findings

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

Effective observation and assessment processes enable staff to plan activities that promote children's changing needs and developing skills. Children enjoy making sandcastles. Staff encourage them to use different tools, initiate discussion about different sizes and count how many sandcastles they make. This introduces children to different mathematical concepts such as number, order and size difference. Other children enjoy taking part in a singing session that incorporates actions and rhymes. Staff talk with children as they play and encourage discussion. However, at times, they do not ask questions that challenge children's critical thinking skills to extend their learning further. Staff provide parents with activities and ideas to complete at home with their children, to extend children's development and progress.

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

Children have daily opportunities to access the outdoors and enjoy fresh air and exercise, supporting their physical health and well-being. Staff plan outdoor play opportunities well. Children are independent because staff encourage them to do things for themselves, such as making their own choices to play indoors or outdoors. Staff promote younger children's awareness of safety, which helps to develop their confidence. They support them to climb up the steps to the slide, offering guidance when required, but allowing them to have a go for themselves. Staff use effective methods to promote children's awareness of hygiene practices. For example, children know to wash their hands before eating. Staff promote children's independence well at snack time. However, they do not always manage the swap over between groups well and, as a result, children do not learn consistently good manners because staff are busy.

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

The management team and staff fully understand the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They effectively work closely together to evaluate the provision and have addressed all recommendations from the previous inspection, to improve children's health and developmental progress. Staff are well qualified and encouraged to develop their knowledge further through attending a range of training opportunities, supervision meetings and through weekly staff meetings. Attending training allows staff to refresh their knowledge and has a positive impact on their teaching and children's learning. For example, the introduction of split group times means that staff focus on activities that target the needs of the children taking part. There are good systems to monitor children's progress and the management team is developing these further. This shows the pre-school's commitment to improving quality.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY346881
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	828516
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	27
Number of children on roll	46
Name of provider	Hemyock Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	3 February 2011
Telephone number	07779859433

Hemyock Pre-School registered in 2007 at Hemyock Primary School, in Hemyock, Devon. The pre-school is open Monday to Friday, from 9am to 3.15pm, term time only. There are nine staff employed to work with the children, of whom eight hold a level 3 qualification or above in early years and one holds a level 2. The pre-school also employs a cleaner and an administrator. The pre-school is in receipt of funding for children aged two, three and four years.

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