

Charity of Mulberry Bush Pre-school, Preston

Littlemoor Road, Weymouth, Dorset, DT3 6AA



Inspection date

7 May 2015

Previous inspection date

17 November 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

- Staff nurture children's independence and self-confidence to promote their future learning and school readiness effectively. For example, children took turns as a helper to carry out responsible tasks and manage their own self-care.
- Staff promote children's positive attitudes and behaviour very well. They discuss expectations with children every day. As a result, children treat others kindly and older children resolve some issues among themselves.
- Staff maintain a safe and secure environment for children throughout the whole premises which allows them to move around freely and safely.
- Management and staff successfully evaluate the quality of the pre-school provision to make ongoing improvements. As a result, they have established very successful partnerships with parents.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some children do not maintain attention well in large group activities when they sit for long periods. As a result, they become restless and lose interest.
- Staff do not always promote children's interest in the creatures they find in the garden to enhance their understanding of natural life.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the organisation of large group activities to keep all children interested and engaged
- extend children's understanding of the world through helping them to learn more about the creatures they find and show an interest in.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching in the play rooms and outdoor play area.
- The inspector sampled children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector assessed the suitability of staff and discussed management's knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Bridget Copson

Inspection findings

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

Staff plan and monitor children's learning effectively in partnership with parents. They provide parents with activity bags to complete with children at home to enhance their learning further. As a result, children make good progress in relation to their starting points. Staff provide a very good range of activities in the playroom and garden to promote all areas of learning. Staff challenge children well in their play to encourage them to think for themselves and problem solve. For example, a group of boys rolled balls up a length of pipe in the garden. When the balls got stuck at the top, staff encouraged them to think how they could get the balls down. The boys persisted in using the pipe to dislodge the balls and cheered when they succeeded. They excitedly repeated the activity over and over. Staff encouraged them to take turns and to talk about the size and weight of the balls to extend their thinking and mathematical development. This good quality teaching motivates children to learn and achieve.

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

Children arrive in a buzz of excitement and settle well. Staff work consistently with parents and children in key groups to meet their needs well. They provide children with a very welcoming environment with displays of their photographs and work. They each have their own drawer for their possessions. This promotes children's emotional well-being effectively. Children benefit from many activities to promote their health and physical development. For example, children ran freely in the garden, rolled down the hill, created their own games and used different physical play equipment. They joined in music and movement activities with laughter and enthusiasm, and played ball games. Staff promote children's health with nutritious snacks and meals. They sit to eat together to promote good table manners. Staff support children very well in learning about keeping safe. They discuss safety each morning with children who carry out simple risk assessments with staff to learn about potential hazards.

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

Management and staff have a good knowledge and understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They all attend training courses to ensure they have a good understanding of their responsibilities to help safeguard and protect children. Management successfully monitors staff knowledge and understanding of how children learn and provides ongoing training for all staff to help them meet children's needs well. For example, all staff have completed training in inclusion and meeting any additional needs for children. This helps them to adapt the environment and activities to include every child and help them achieve well. Staff work closely with the school on site and support children well in their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY406512
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	831484
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	33
Name of provider	Mulberry Bush Pre-School Preston Committee
Date of previous inspection	17 November 2010
Telephone number	01305 458945

Charity of Mulberry Bush Pre-school registered in 1992. It is located in Weymouth, Dorset. The pre-school is open during term time only from 8.45am to 12 noon and until 3pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three- and four-years-old. The pre-school employs five members of staff. The manager is a qualified teacher and all other staff hold early years qualifications at Levels 2 and 3.

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