

Crich Pre-School

Glebe Field Close, Crich, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 5EU



Inspection date

8 June 2015

Previous inspection date

1 November 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

- Staff use their observations to effectively plan for children's next steps in learning and assess their progress accurately.
- Children in the pre-school make good progress and enjoy the well-planned activities.
- Children enjoy outdoor activities that promote their physical development and help them to explore the natural environment.
- Strong partnerships between parents and the pre-school staff ensure that parents are well informed about their child's development.
- The pre-school staff work well together, which means the organisation of the pre-school is effective. The staff provide a relaxed, safe, fun and homely environment where each child is respected and valued.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Opportunities for children to explore and investigate their own ideas and find new ways to do things during sensory activities are not fully maximised.
- On occasions, staff miss opportunities to use effective questioning to extend and develop children's thinking. This means that children's knowledge and ideas are not always explored in as much detail as they could be.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's opportunities to explore and investigate sensory activities so that they can develop their own ideas and ways of doing things
- support staff to help children develop their critical thinking skills by consistently extending the use of effective questioning during activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playroom and outdoor area.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to the managers and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of staff working within the setting, and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector also took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of inspection.

Inspector

Lianne McElvaney

Inspection findings

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

The well-qualified staff team has a secure understanding of the learning and development requirements. Staff gain information about children's starting points, monitor their progress and clearly identify their next steps in learning. Staff carry out regular observations of the children and use this information to plan activities and experiences based on children's interests. However, staff do not maximise the opportunities for children to freely access sensory and creative play activities. This has an impact on their exploration, investigation and imaginative development. Communication and language development is given high priority, and as a result, many children have good language skills. However, staff do not always challenge and sustain children's thinking by using effective questions. This means that, on occasions, children's learning is not always maximised. Staff engage well with parents to establish children's starting points, and consistently involve them in their children's learning and development. Children gain the skills needed for school by practising language skills during adult-led activities and learning how to listen carefully and concentrate.

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

Children are happy and secure in the nursery. They build strong relationships with their key person. Staff know the children and their families well, and as a result, children settle quickly. Children receive lots of praise and recognition for their efforts and achievements, which helps to promote their self-esteem and confidence. Children learn good hygiene practices through the daily routines, such as washing their hands before snack. They enjoy healthy snacks, which supports their knowledge of healthy lifestyles. Children enjoy many activities that support their physical development, such as riding trikes in the garden and playing active games, such as football. Staff are good role models and consistently reinforce positive behaviour. Children develop positive attitudes to others and to learning, which helps them get ready for the move to school.

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

Both managers have a thorough understanding of their responsibilities and implement a range of policies and procedures to support their work. Staff effectively monitor children's progress through observations. They identify and target any gaps in learning. Parents receive regular updates of their child's learning through daily conversations and more formal written reports. Children's welfare is effectively safeguarded through a variety of measures, including implementing written policies, risk assessments, site security and staff training. Robust systems are used to check that staff are suitable to work with children. Regular supervision and training ensure staff develop their practice, which has a positive effect on improving teaching and children's experiences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	206752
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	865428
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	19
Number of children on roll	40
Name of provider	Crich Pre-school Committee
Date of previous inspection	1 November 2011
Telephone number	01773 857894

Crich Pre-School was registered in 1992. The setting employs five members of full-time staff. Of these, four hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and one holds level 2. The setting opens five days a week during term time only. Sessions are from 9.15am until 3.45pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, and 9.15am until 12.15pm on Thursday and Friday. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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