

# Hilltop Pre-School

St. Barnabas C of E Primary School, West Hill, Portishead, Bristol, Avon, BS20 6LN



<b>Inspection date</b>	11 June 2015
Previous inspection date	21 October 2011

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Leadership is strong. The manager works closely with the committee and has a clear vision for the improvement and development of the pre-school and staff. For example, recent woodwork training means staff plan to include more natural resources outdoors for children to explore and build with.
- Safeguarding knowledge is good. Staff know what action to take to protect children from harm.
- Children play well together, forming strong relationships with staff and one another, and their behaviour is good.
- The embedded key-person system helps children to form secure attachments. This promotes children's well-being effectively and provides a strong base for their learning.
- All staff are qualified and use this knowledge to provide well planned activities that challenge the children so they consistently make good progress from their starting points.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always ask parents to become involved in planning how to move their children forward in their learning and development.
- Sometimes staff do not provide the same quality of challenges to children during their play as they do during adult-led activities.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- find ways to increase parents' involvement in planning ways to move their children's learning forward
- develop further ways to challenge children during their play.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the classroom and in the outdoor space.
- The inspector spoke to parents and considered their views.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation including children's records, planning, policies and procedures, and evidence of staff suitability.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection, and held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

### Inspector

Jean Essom

## Inspection findings

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

Staff provide a wide selection of resources and activities in the room and the outdoor environment, so that children have good opportunities to make their own choices in play. As a result, children are motivated, enthusiastic and confident learners. Children enjoy investigating the natural world and contribute towards plans for the outside areas. They show an interest in living things and the adults support them to find out more about their discoveries, such as the Latin name for the beetle they found. Staff carry out regular and meaningful observations and assessments on children so they are able to plan challenging activities in line with their abilities and interests. Staff are committed to helping the children learn and make resources that are personal to their learning needs, such as ladybird counting mats. Staff have a good understanding of how children learn and develop and so they make good progress. The children enjoy socialising with each other and develop good language skills through the conversations with each other and the staff.

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

Children enjoy playing outside daily in a large play area where they can get plenty of fresh air and exercise. They learn to eat healthily by trying different fruits at snack times. Staff have a good knowledge of how to keep the children safe and children also learn about safety around the setting, such as checking that doors do not trap fingers. They are independent and enjoy learning skills so they are prepared well for school, discussing this with the staff. Staff develop caring and warm relationships quickly with children so they feel safe and secure. This then gives children the confidence to explore and learn. Staff are good role models who use sensitive explanations and consistent rules and boundaries to promote good behaviour. Children learn to use resources to support rules, such as a sand timer to take turns and to share toys.

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

The manager and committee have a good understanding of their requirements and their roles to support staff with this. They have a robust system in place to ensure they employ suitable people to work with the children. The manager and staff are committed to providing good quality care and education for the children and families, with regular discussions on how they will achieve this. They keep parents informed of their children's progress and work closely with other professionals and carers to ensure children receive continuity of care. The manager monitors the children's progress and supports staff to meet the learning needs of the children by organising appropriate training. Staff feel supported with regular supervisory meetings to discuss their own progress, as well as that of the children. Parents are very happy with the service and care provided.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY355968
<b>Local authority</b>	North Somerset
<b>Inspection number</b>	835325
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	20
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	43
<b>Name of provider</b>	Portishead Playgroup Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	21 October 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	01275390947

Hilltop Pre-School first opened in the 1960s and moved to the current premises in September 2007, within the Portishead Children's Centre in Bristol. A committee, that includes parents of the children that attend, manages it. The pre-school is open daily during school term time from 9am to 12 noon and 12.30pm to 3.30pm, and includes a lunch club. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years old. The pre-school employs six members of staff to work with the children; all hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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