

Sunny Corner Pre-School

Chynoweth Lane, St Hilary, Penzance, Cornwall, TR20 9DR



Inspection date

23 June 2015

Previous inspection date

19 May 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- Highly effective staff appraisal and supervision successfully supports staff in extending their skills and reflecting on their practice to maintain their outstanding provision.
- The highly effective team of staff work exceptionally well together. They create an extremely nurturing, caring and welcoming environment. This results in children feeling very secure and happy, and quickly settling in to their activities.
- Key persons very quickly establish children's starting points. They use this information accurately to plan highly challenging activities, which promote children's very strong progress across all areas of learning.
- The close links staff have with the adjacent school help them to successfully support children, ready for their move there. This promotes highly positive continuity of care and learning.
- The setting is highly proactive in identifying and arranging additional support for children needing extra help. They work extremely well with parents and other agencies to address children's individual needs.
- Staff are highly skilled at developing and extending children's play. Their adept use of questions and highly sensitive interventions successfully extend children's thinking and problem solving skills.
- Enthusiastic staff share their knowledge exceptionally well with each other to ensure consistency in their practice. This helps them to make targeted improvements to children's learning experiences.
- Staff make full use of a wide range of methods to inform parents about their children's activities and progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- link the information parents provide about their children's achievements from home more effectively to planning and assessments, to provide more seamless learning opportunities for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed activities in the playrooms and the outdoor play area.
- The inspector held discussions with the chairperson and staff, including the manager and the special needs coordinator.
- The inspector checked documents relating to the suitability and qualifications of staff and sampled documentation regarding planning and children's progress.

Inspector

Lynne Bowden

Inspection findings

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

Staff are extremely experienced and well qualified. They are very knowledgeable about how children learn and their teaching skills are superb. Exemplary monitoring of children's progress enables staff to skilfully plan for each child's learning. This leads to children making outstanding progress. Exemplary organisation of snack time enables staff to reinforce and develop children's skills. For example, children recognise their names as they self-register and the numerals that indicate how many pieces of each food they can take. Staff teach children how to handle knives safely when they slice fruit. Snack time is an extremely sociable occasion, where staff successfully encourage children's conversations about their families and experiences. Staff promote children's listening skills very well and help them recognise and identify sounds and letters of words. This gives children an extremely secure basis for their future reading and spelling. As a result, children acquire very strong skills for future learning. Support for children moving on to school is superb. In addition to children being familiar with the school before starting there, pre-school staff greet them in their reception class on the first day of term, helping the teachers to settle the children. Although partnerships with parents are very strong, the link between parent's information about their children's achievements at home and the childminder's assessment and planning is not emphasised, to encourage contributions from all parents.

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

Key persons establish extremely warm and strong relationships with children. This results in children feeling very safe and secure. It also helps them to develop the confidence they need to enthusiastically initiate and participate in learning experiences. Children make friends and are naturally friendly and confident with familiar adults. Staff conscientiously teach children about healthy lifestyles. Excellent use of the outdoor environment encourages children's outstanding progress across all areas of learning.

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

The committee and manager are highly committed to and knowledgeable about safeguarding children's welfare to protect children from harm. Their involvement in highly effective monitoring of practice through observations and feedback promotes staff development extremely well. The manager meticulously encourages staff to reflect on their practice. She involves them in regular self-evaluation to identify clear targets for continual improvement. Highly committed staff extend their knowledge and skills through regular training and research. They enthusiastically share their knowledge with their colleagues to make improvements to children's learning. This means teaching is of exceptionally high quality.

Setting details

Unique reference number	102876
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	824712
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	51
Name of provider	Sunny Corner Pre-school Committee
Date of previous inspection	19 May 2009
Telephone number	01736 763931

Sunny Corner Pre-School and Childcare Centre is a committee-run group. It registered in 1991 and operates from purpose-built premises in the grounds of St Hilary Primary School, near Goldsithney, Penzance, Cornwall. The provision is open each weekday from 8am until 3:30pm term time only. Children aged two, three and four years receive funding for nursery education. The setting employs nine childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications, including Early Years Professional Status and Qualified Teacher Status. One staff member has a foundation degree, five have level 3 qualifications and one member of staff has a level 2 qualification.

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