

Ashill Pre-School

School House, Ashill, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 9ND



Inspection date

6 July 2015

Previous inspection date

28 September 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 are good role models for children and encourage them to develop positive attitudes towards one another. Consequently, children behave very well and play happily together.
- The quality of teaching is good. For example, staff ask useful questions which help children develop their thinking, language and communication.
- Staff regularly observe children at play. They communicate very effectively with parents to discover children's interests and abilities, and keep them well informed. This helps staff plan activities that meet children's needs well and ensure they make good progress.
- Staff prepare children extremely well for their move to school through close partnerships with school staff. They share details of their development and progress. They arrange many visits to school to enable children to become familiar with their new environment.
- The provider, manager and staff work very well together as a team. Staff are supported to attend training, improve their qualifications and reflect on their practice. The manager uses her qualification and knowledge to drive improvement. This helps the pre-school to continually improve outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always encourage children to practise making marks and early writing or match letters with their sounds during play activities.
- Some areas of the environment are not resourced or organised well to inspire children's imaginative play, to fully promote their creative development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities to encourage children to practise their early writing skills and match letters to sounds as they play
- improve the organisation of space and resources in some areas of the pre-school to fully support children's imaginative play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to parents and considered their views.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation, including a range of policies and children's progress records.

Inspector

Tracy Hughes

Inspection findings

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

Children enjoy their time at pre-school. Staff value children's ideas and allow them to develop their interests. Therefore, children develop positive attitudes to learning, which prepares them well for school. Staff promote children's communication and language well because they talk to them about their experiences outside pre-school and allow children time to think about their answers. Children have opportunities to learn about the natural world. Staff use practical activities that teach children about lifecycles and involve them in caring for living things. Children develop their independence because staff provide resources which they can easily find for themselves. At the inspection, they chose materials in the art and craft area to create their own models. Staff promote children's understanding of mathematical language very well as children play, such as introducing terms such as 'full' and 'empty'. Staff use robust systems to monitor children's achievements to ensure all children make good progress.

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

Relationships are strong. Staff know children extremely well and are warm and caring towards them. Consequently, children feel very secure and make good progress in their personal, social and emotional development. Staff encourage children to take responsibility for routine tasks. They consistently praise children for their efforts and achievements, which promotes their self-esteem. Staff promote children's physical care well. For example, they teach children about good hygiene practices when they remind them to wash their hands after handling compost and before mealtimes. Children benefit from having plenty of time to play outside in the fresh air and develop good physical skills. They learn to manage risks as they ride bikes and scooters or use the large climbing equipment. Children behave very well and learn to take turns because staff give clear instructions and use resources effectively to help them.

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

The provider and manager have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities to meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They implement robust recruitment and induction procedures to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. They use regular supervision and appraisal meetings to provide strong support to enhance staff's professional development and to keep children safe. Staff have a good understanding of child protection matters and know what to do if they have a concern about a child in their care. The manager monitors children's progression to ensure that staff identify and address any gaps in their learning. Management has met previous recommendations and secured improvement through effective evaluation.

Setting details

Unique reference number	142942
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	836642
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	8
Number of children on roll	16
Name of provider	Ashill Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	28 September 2011
Telephone number	0753 0220182(presch) 01460 480637 (sch)

Ashill Pre-School registered in 1992. It operates from the Ashill Primary School site in Ashill, Somerset. The pre-school is open from 9am until 3pm daily during school term times. The pre-school committee employs three members of staff who work with the children, including the manager. The manager holds a level 6 qualification in early years and the deputy has an early years qualification at level 3.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

