

Hillcrest Early Years Pre-School

Hillcrest Drive, South Anston, SHEFFIELD, S25 5FQ



Inspection date

12 November 2015

Previous inspection date

7 December 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- There are good systems for monitoring and tracking children's progress. Staff are fully aware of what they need to do to move individual children on in their learning.
- The pre-school staff have made positive changes since the last inspection. For example, they have introduced activities and outings to support children to explore their local community and understand the world round them.
- Partnerships with parents are very strong. Staff regularly share their observations and assessments of children's progress. Parents are supported to extend their child's ongoing learning and development at home.
- The pre-school is well resourced and children have access to well-organised, stimulating activities which promote their learning both inside and outside.
- Staff are well supported by the manager. She quickly identifies their strengths and areas for development are swiftly addressed. As a result, children have access to good quality care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Arrangements for monitoring staff performance do not focus consistently on raising the quality of teaching as far as possible.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance arrangements for monitoring the consistency of staff practice and raise the potential to consistently achieve an excellent standard of teaching.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation and a selection of policies and procedures.
- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor areas, and jointly evaluated an activity with the manager.
- The inspector considered the views of parents and children spoken to during the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed children's learning records, evidence of staff suitability and their qualifications.
- The inspector spoke with the staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed the processes for keeping children safe, including risk assessments, first aid and policies used by the pre-school.

Inspector

Katherine Wilkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager has a sound understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Staff use a range of procedures and policies that underpins their practice effectively. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and committee ensure that recruitment and vetting procedures are robust. Children's safety and welfare are well supported. Children are kept safe from harm. Self-evaluation is used well and identifies ambitious plans for the future. There are effective systems for monitoring and assessing children's progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The key-person system is well established and staff have a good understanding of individual children's needs and interests. They support children's learning, development and emotional well-being effectively. Disabled children and those with special educational needs are well supported. Careful monitoring and an effective special educational needs coordinator ensure children's needs are swiftly identified. They promptly receive any additional support they need. Staff use their skills and knowledge to provide challenging and interesting activities which encourage children to become motivated to learn. Partnerships with other professionals and arrangements for supporting children to be ready to move on to school are good.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are well settled and emotionally secure in the pre-school. They respond positively to opportunities provided to develop their independence. These help to build their confidence and self-esteem. Staff are positive role models. They use praise and gentle guidance to support children. Children gain good values, such as being kind to others. Healthy snacks and well-implemented physical play activities support children's understanding of healthy lifestyles. Staff gain support from the wider community to help children to learn how to assess danger and keep themselves safe. For example, the road safety officer comes into the setting to teach children how to cross the road safely.

Outcomes for children are good

Children of all abilities make good progress from their individual starting points. This is because activities are sharply focused to meet children's needs. Staff ensure that any gaps in children's learning are quickly and effectively addressed. Staff work well to support children to become confident and to gain the skills they need to be ready for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	303238
Local authority	Rotherham
Inspection number	864764
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	Hillcrest Early Years Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	7 December 2011
Telephone number	077208 70588

Hillcrest Early Years Pre-School is a committee-run pre-school. It was registered in 1980. The pre-school is open every weekday from 7.45am to 11.45am term time only. It employs four members of staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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