Crafthole Pre-School

Sheviock Memorial Hall, Crafthole, Torpoint, Cornwall, PL11 3DF



Inspection date	24 November 2015
Previous inspection date	23 May 2011

	The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	early years provision	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1	
	Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
	Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff work exceptionally well together and provide a wealth of activities. They have excellent organisational skills and are highly efficient, making excellent use of space and resources. Children are always busy, happy and thoroughly engrossed in their play.
- Partnerships with parents are extremely strong. Staff engage parents exceptionally well in children's learning and provide them with an extensive range of information. Parents provide excellent feedback, and make an active contribution to running the group and helping to raise funds.
- Staff are very skilful in their teaching and support, helping children to concentrate and play extremely well. Highly effective observation, assessment and planning enable close monitoring of children's development and progress to close gaps in learning promptly. Staff have an exemplary understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- The management team oversees very rigorous self-evaluation. They monitor and support staff performance very well, which results in highly effective staff development and an exceptional drive for continuous improvements to benefit the children.
- Excellent arrangements support children's emotional development exceptionally well. Toddler group sessions successfully prepare younger children for pre-school. Children develop significant confidence and competence as they become ready for school. Staff have very strong links with other settings to fully promote continuity of care.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

extend the opportunities for children to practise their early writing skills further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the staff and children in their indoor and outdoor activities.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff and parents.
- The inspector sampled children's development records.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector checked required records and documentation, including evidence of staff qualifications and suitability.

Inspector

Julie Wright

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The committee and manager work very effectively together to oversee all aspects of the setting. They have addressed the previous inspection recommendation with great success, making excellent improvements to extend children's communication and language development through staff training to develop the use of resources and staff skills. The manager provides extremely good support to staff and is an exemplary role model. Teambuilding days and staff meetings are highly effective and encourage staff to share their knowledge and expertise, especially following any training. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are extremely conscientious about children's safety. They attend relevant child protection training and demonstrate robust knowledge and practice to safeguard children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff create an extremely vibrant learning environment and provide a very warm welcome to families. Children show keen excitement when they arrive. They make confident choices and have excellent focus. Staff expertly divide the children into groups to ensure precise challenges in children's learning. For example, older children thoroughly enjoy mathematical games with staff as they add, subtract and solve puzzles. Younger children gain tremendous benefit from individual and smaller group activities. Children are quick to learn. They particularly love role play. For example, they enthusiastically act out a variety of characters for their Nativity performance. Staff make excellent links between outdoor and indoor learning. For instance, they remind children during role play about safety techniques learnt at forest school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children respond exceptionally well to staff's highly positive behaviour management. They are very familiar with the routines and signals, such as a significant sequence of claps. Staff provide pictures and other visual signs to further support children's very good understanding. However, staff miss opportunities to encourage children to contribute towards this so that they can practise their strong early writing skills and extend their awareness of print further. Children play extremely well and make close friendships. They show much kindness and concern towards others and take turns. Staff make excellent use of snack time for continuous teaching and learning, for example, older children competently serve themselves. Children learn about healthy eating through innovative activities. For example, they grow and harvest vegetables to sell at the village fair.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are very keen to learn. The exceptionally well-planned activities engage them very well and they make very strong progress from their developmental starting points.

Setting details

Unique reference number 102798

Local authority Cornwall

Inspection number 824706

Type of provision Sessional provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Age range of children 2 - 4

Total number of places 26

Number of children on roll 34

Name of provider Crafthole Pre-School Committee

Date of previous inspection 23 May 2011

Telephone number 07900 553116

Crafthole Pre-School opened in 1979. It is managed by a committee of parents and operates from Crafthole Village Hall. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday from 9.30am until 1.30pm, during term time only. There are six members of staff employed to work with the children. All staff hold early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school receives early education funding for children aged two, three and four years.

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