

Bishop Sutton Pre-School Forest Club



Bishops Sutton Cp School, Wick Road, Bishop Sutton, Bristol, BS39 5XD

Inspection date	26 November 2015
Previous inspection date	18 March 2010

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

- The managers are exceptionally committed to making the benefits of outdoor learning available to all children. Their skilful practice is recognised as exemplary within the county.
- The knowledgeable staff have extremely high expectations of what children can achieve. Staff provide a vast range of highly challenging opportunities for learning in all areas of the curriculum. Children are highly motivated, eager to explore and develop a great love for learning.
- Children form exceptional relationships with staff. This means children are very emotionally secure and individual children's needs are always met extremely well.
- Children learn from the very caring staff and demonstrate much care and kindness towards each other, which is delightful to see.
- The managers ensure that all staff and children are vigilant about managing risk in the outdoor environment. Parents are impressed with how well their children know the rules and that they can keep themselves safe in the countryside.
- The leadership team is highly effective in driving improvement. Staff demonstrate an uncompromising commitment to achieving excellence in all areas.
- Partnership with parents and the community is very strong. Many improvements have been made in recent years as a result of fundraising. The 'African Thatch', a beautiful hut which can be used for shelter and other activities, is just one example.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to further strengthen their critical thinking skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff's interactions and children's activities outdoors, and checked the resources and equipment available for children's use.
- The inspector talked to staff, children and parents at convenient times.
- The inspector sampled children's records, policies and procedures, and other documentation, including risk assessments.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff suitability, qualifications and training, and discussed how the staff work in partnership with other professionals.

Inspector

Amanda Burn

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The managers and staff are extremely well organised and experienced. Safeguarding is effective. Risk assessments and safety processes, such as recruitment checks, and clear policies and procedures are rigorously implemented to help keep children safe. Parents very well informed about their child's progress through excellent communications and sharing detailed records and observations. Further professional training is tailored to the children's needs and has a very beneficial impact on children's learning. Relationships with the local Primary school are particularly strong; weekly visits to the school give children an excellent introduction to the school environment. Staff ensure the Forest Club is always inclusive and accessible for all children, including those with additional needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Every opportunity is used to enrich and stimulate children's learning. For example, staff give areas of the woodland names to challenge children's use of language, such as 'The Muddy Knoll' or 'The Maple Copse'. Staff also help children learn to the Latin name for creatures, such as 'Limicus Flavus' for the common slug. Children develop a very rich vocabulary and such words can be heard in the stories they create. Staff make skilful evaluations and assessments of children's learning and listen to their views. They plan next steps in the children's learning, which are consistently highly challenging and motivating. For example, children carefully record their routes around the woodland using individual maps. Although children develop their critical thinking, problem solving and creative skills extremely well in free-flow play, this is not as strongly developed for focused activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children demonstrate exceptionally high levels of confidence, independence and self-motivation. They concentrate and persevere with their learning and are proud of their achievements. Children investigate and respect a particularly wide range of cultures. They use this learning to expand and enrich their own ideas. For example, children make Aborigine inspired 'Journey Sticks' to record their own journeys, study images of people who live outdoors when planning their own dens, and make links to the blossom festivals in Japan during springtime. Staff teach children the safety rules very well. They know how to help children take a positive approach to risks and keep safe. For example, children know they must not eat berries; however, they can still study, photograph or draw them. Children enjoy healthy food, which is often cooked on the campfire.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children thrive in this outdoor environment. All children make rapid progress relative to their starting points. They are exceptionally well behaved and are very well prepared for school or the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY402013
Local authority	Bath & NE Somerset
Inspection number	1028890
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	45
Name of provider	Bishop Sutton Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	18 March 2010
Telephone number	07971 330577

Bishop Sutton Pre-School Forest Club registered in 2009. It is located within the grounds of the Bishop Sutton Primary School, in the village of Bishop Sutton in Bath and North East Somerset. The provision is open on Thursday from 9am to 11.30am in term times only. There are eight members of staff, seven of whom hold a relevant early years qualification at level 3 or above. The Pre-School Forest Club receives funding for free early years education for children aged three and four years.

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