

Boscastle Playschool

Top School, Fore Street, Boscastle, Cornwall, PL35 0AU



Inspection date

25 January 2016

Previous inspection date

4 April 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

- Children enjoy being in the stimulating environment. Staff provide a wide variety of resources that interest children and promote all areas of learning.
- Staff monitor children's development well with robust observation, assessment and planning procedures. They identify any gaps in learning and take effective action to address them, for example, by providing more mathematical activities.
- Staff have warm relationships with parents and provide frequent updates on children's progress and well-being. They provide useful guidance for parents and clear details about play school activities and events.
- Positive partnerships with other providers, services and the primary school make an effective contribution to staff working together to meet the needs of children. This helps to prepare children well for future learning and moving on to school.
- Effective leadership and management ensure the staff and committee are clear about their roles and responsibilities. Their successful self-evaluation procedure provides strong ideas for ongoing development and improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The deployment of staff does not always ensure that children benefit from continuously effective staff support during their outdoor play activities.
- Staff do not always work closely with parents to promote a more consistent approach to addressing children's individual next steps.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review and improve the deployment of staff to provide consistently effective support during children's outdoor play activities
- work more closely with parents to promote a more consistent approach to addressing children's individual next steps.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children in their indoor and outdoor activities.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, deputy, staff and parents.
- The inspector viewed a sample of children's development records.
- The inspector checked required documentation, including evidence of suitability and qualifications.
- The inspector checked the safety and suitability of the premises.

Inspector

Julie Wright

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team has successfully addressed the recommendation from the last inspection to improve the assessment procedures. They continue to review and develop their monitoring systems so that staff accurately identify and plan for children's changing needs. The manager supports staff well to develop their skills. Staff training has a positive impact on children's learning. For example, staff have a better understanding of how boys learn and take effective steps to provide further support. Staff have increased confidence in teaching letters and sounds and in managing children's behaviour, helping to prepare them well for future learning. Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff have a secure knowledge of the procedures to follow to protect children's welfare. There are robust systems to check the suitability of persons responsible for the care of children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children well to explore and investigate with confidence. Children are keen to join in and readily choose activities. For example, children sit with staff to play with dough and to make models using building bricks. Staff interact well and have conversations with the children, promoting their good language development. Staff skilfully include colour and shape recognition as children play. The outdoor areas provide fascinating learning opportunities for children. For instance, children help to care for the guinea pigs and hens, and show great delight when they discover an egg laid by a chicken. Children are eager participants in singing and action rhyme sessions. Staff have a good knowledge of children's individual interests and use these well to promote learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The weekly 'Stay and Play' sessions prepare toddlers very well for play school. Younger children feel very secure and quickly settle. Staff make good use of the daily routines to promote learning. For example, children learn to use cutlery and spread butter at snack time. Children show a clear understanding of safety, and recognise that they 'might choke' if they walk around with food in their mouths. They grow fruits and vegetables with staff and have healthy snacks. For instance, children pick apples, make baked potatoes and eat parsnip chips. Children benefit from physical exercise and frequent outdoor play opportunities. Staff provide activities that encourage children to lift and move things, which channels energy and promotes positive behaviour well.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy their experiences and learn to cooperate well in group situations. They understand the daily routines and develop the skills they need for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY416908
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	832394
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	23
Name of provider	Boscastle Pre School Playgroup
Date of previous inspection	4 April 2011
Telephone number	01840 250 760

Boscastle Play School was established in 1969 and registered at these premises in 2010. It is run by a management committee and operates from a purpose-designed building, known locally as 'Top School', in the village of Boscastle. The play school is open from 8am until 5.30pm throughout the year, closing on bank holidays and for two weeks in December. The play school receives early education funding to provide free places for children aged two, three and four years. There are six staff employed to work with the children, five of whom hold a childcare qualification to at least level 3.

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