

Castlemorton Caterpillars Pre-School

Church Road, Castlemorton, Malvern, Worcestershire, WR13 6BG



Inspection date

5 February 2016

Previous inspection date

8 July 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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

- The quality of teaching is good and staff provide children with a wide range of interesting and challenging experiences. This has a positive impact on the progress children make.
- Staff are skilled in helping children form secure emotional attachments. Staff are kind, caring and respond well to the needs of individual children. Good settling-in arrangements ensure that children feel confident and eager to join in. This helps to promote children's emotional well-being.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Staff are successful at engaging parents in their children's learning. This helps to complement children's learning between home and pre-school.
- Leaders and staff reflect well on their practice. They take into account the views of parents, children and other professionals. This helps staff to identify areas to improve upon. Consequently, children receive good quality care and learning experiences.
- Staff promote children's understanding of the importance of healthy lifestyles. They are provided with healthy snacks and benefit from regular physical exercise.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Partnerships with some other early years settings children attend are not yet fully effective.
- Supervision of staff does not always focus precisely on how staff can develop their good teaching skills further to help children achieve at the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on partnerships with other settings that children attend to fully complement children's care and learning experiences
- look more closely at the impact of the good teaching and use this information to further raise standards and help children achieve at the highest possible level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the headteacher.
- The inspector held a meeting with the headteacher. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the pre-school's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to parents and carers during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Amanda Tompkin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Improvements have been made since the last inspection. Planning of children's activities is now effective in providing children with sufficient challenge to help them progress in all areas of learning. The programme for staff development is good. Staff have regular meetings with the headteacher and good professional development ensures that staff are equipped with the necessary skills to help them fulfil their role. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All leaders and staff understand their role in protecting children from harm and abuse. Staff understand the correct procedure to follow should they have concerns about children's welfare. Children are supervised well and staff ensure that children have a safe environment in which to play and explore. Staff and leaders currently monitor the progress of all individual children. They successfully use the information from this to plan for children's future learning needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and understand how children learn and develop. Good teaching methods ensure that children receive good quality experiences. Children demonstrate an interest to learn and participate in all activities on offer. Staff appropriately support children's interests. They get involved with children's play and help to extend their learning by asking children questions about what they are doing. Children's early writing skills are encouraged as they show an interest in writing their own names. Staff praise children for their efforts. This helps children to keep trying and to learn new skills. Staff read stories to small groups of children. Children are encouraged to join in and make suggestions about what might happen next. This is one way in which the staff give children a very good introduction to early reading. Established links with the attached school help to prepare the children for their eventual move to school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well within the pre-school. Staff appropriately support children to cooperate with each other and to consider the needs of others as they play. Children are encouraged to become independent. Amongst other things, they help to carry out tasks, such as setting the table before snack time. Staff praise children for their efforts and achievements. This helps to promote children's self-esteem and well-being. Children have plenty of opportunities to be physically active indoors and outdoors. Some examples of this are when children excitedly perform dance routines to their chosen music on the stage, and when they enjoy using the cones outside to make obstacle courses. They have opportunities to learn to negotiate space, practise ball control and move for different purposes.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are happy, settled and enjoy attending this friendly and stimulating pre-school. All children, including those in receipt of funding, make good progress given their individual starting points. Staff support children to gain the necessary skills to support their future learning, including their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY313316
Local authority	Worcestershire
Inspection number	1028910
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	17
Name of provider	Castlemorton CofE Primary School
Date of previous inspection	8 July 2013
Telephone number	01684 833 282

Castlemorton Caterpillars Pre-School was registered in 2005. It operates from Castlemorton Primary School in the Castlemorton area of Worcester. The pre-school employs two members of childcare staff. Of these, both hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including one with Qualified Teacher Status. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday term time only. Sessions are from 8.45am until 11.45am. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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