

Dunkeswell Pre School

Unit 6, Culme Way, Dunkeswell, Honiton, Devon, EX14 4JP



Inspection date

6 January 2016

Previous inspection date

11 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 manager uses self-evaluation well to gain the views of children, parents and staff. This helps her focus on priorities and drive improvement.
- Staff interact and support children well to extend their learning, helping them to make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff work effectively with parents. They share information regularly and make suggestions about how parents can contribute to their children's learning at home, to provide a consistent approach in children's experiences.
- Staff promote children's physical well-being well. They provide plenty of opportunities for fresh air and exercise to help encourage a healthy lifestyle.
- Children develop strong emotional bonds and trusting relationships with staff. This helps to promote children's self-esteem and confidence.
- Staff create a positive culture that values and celebrates diversity. They successfully help children to understand about the wider world and value one another.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager provides staff with good support overall. However, she does not always focus on strengthening precise teaching skills to extend children's learning even further.
- Staff miss some opportunities to support children in writing for different purposes to fully develop their early literacy skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the support staff receive to help them extend their teaching skills even further
- provide a wider range of opportunities for children to write for different purposes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching and the impact this has on children's learning inside and outside.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of staff and a range of other documentation, including policies.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector met with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Petra Morgan

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff are vigilant about ensuring children's welfare and safety. They know the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child in their care, to keep children safe from harm. The manager implements rigorous recruitment procedures, so only suitable adults work with the children. Overall, she monitors and supports staff well through regular meetings so they can share concerns and some ideas for consistent practice. Staff develop strong partnerships with other professionals to meet children's individual needs. This helps everyone work together to ensure children receive the support they need.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a stimulating, challenging and well-resourced environment to promote children's learning well in all areas. The manager regularly checks on children's development to ensure they are progressing well and any gaps in their learning are closing. Staff use accurate methods to assess the progress that children make. They use this detail well to provide activities that support each child's individual next steps across all areas of learning. Children are confident and well-motivated to learn. Staff engage children well and provide good support to develop their language and mathematical development. They help children to weigh, count and competently describe what they are doing.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide a warm and nurturing environment. Children's behaviour is good. They receive clear support to help them manage their own behaviour well. Staff constantly recognise and praise children's efforts and achievements. All children play very well together. Staff place great emphasis on developing children's independence skills. Children enjoy the responsibility of carrying out tasks themselves. Staff provide ample opportunities for children to learn about healthy foods and develop healthy lifestyles. Children enjoy playing outdoors regularly. They confidently use different resources and equipment to extend their physical development. This includes developing their balance and coordination skills well as they walk across planks.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. They form friendships and develop their communication and mathematical skills well. This helps children prepare for their next stage of learning and starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	105965
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	824792
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	23
Number of children on roll	34
Name of provider	Dunkeswell Pre-School
Date of previous inspection	11 May 2011
Telephone number	01404 891622

Dunkeswell Pre School registered in 1994 and operates from premises in the village of Dunkeswell, Devon. It is open each weekday during term time. Sessions run from 9.15am to 3.15pm. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. There are five members of staff, all of whom hold qualifications at level 3.

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