

North Tawton Preschool

North Tawton Community Primary School, Exeter Street, North Tawton, Devon, EX20 2HB



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

1 March 2016

14 April 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 management and staff team are passionate, enthusiastic and committed to the pursuit of excellence, and demonstrate very high expectations for all children. They have made exceptional progress since their last inspection to provide the best care and education.
- Activities are extremely rich and varied, and support children to be highly inquisitive. Children show excellent independence and confidence for their age, and exemplary staff practice and a highly stimulating learning environment support this very well.
- All children are very motivated and enthusiastic learners who make rapid progress in their development from their starting points. Children gain outstanding skills that prepare them exceptionally well for school.
- Children develop exceptionally strong attachments with the caring and attentive staff. They behave extremely well, are very polite and show great respect for others.
- Partnerships with parents, other providers, external agencies and the school's foundation stage unit are excellent. Parents and all key agencies are fully included in children's assessment and contribute significantly to the rapid progress children make. The incredibly close relationship with the school helps children to settle extremely well and with ease when they move on in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of some small-group activities to minimise interruptions in children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children indoors and outside.
- The inspector spoke with staff, the manager, the committee chair, the head of the foundation stage unit and the school headteacher.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies, qualification certificates, medicine forms and children's learning records.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to some parents to gain their views on the day of inspection.

Inspector

Katherine Lamb

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff demonstrate excellent confidence in their knowledge of how to keep children safe from harm. The strong management and staff team is highly reflective, ensuring it maintains ongoing practice to an excellent standard in all aspects of learning and development. The manager and all staff demonstrate an outstanding vision and dedication to providing children with high-quality care and education. The management team supports staff extremely well to make the most of professional development opportunities to continually support the children's changing needs. For example, it has introduced indoor climbing equipment to extend opportunities for children to be more physically active and challenged.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The management and staff team is highly motivated and, through continuous monitoring of the educational programmes and children's progress, staff plan highly meaningful and challenging experiences based on gaps in children's learning. Children very confidently learn that sounds represent letters to make up words. Staff use technology particularly well to enhance children's learning. For example, staff support them to use an electronic tablet to search for things of interest. They sound out the letters needed for children to type in and form words. They help children to share their results and talk about what they see. Staff very skilfully increase this further so that children add new words to extend their search further and bring up different research. Children very confidently use technology in their learning. However, occasionally, the location of small-group work sometimes interrupts children's concentration.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The environment is extremely vibrant and actively contributes to children's excellent learning and development. The highly sensitive support and close relationships with staff help children to feel very secure, settled and ready for learning. Children have excellent confidence, self-esteem and emotional well-being. Staff promote children's physical well-being expertly outdoors and inside. Children learn to manage risks and exercise their bodies on the large equipment. Children's behaviour is exemplary.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make substantial and sustained progress across all areas of their learning and development. Children are highly successful and curious explorers. They excitedly identify different continents on a map and learn about the different places people live and some of the languages they speak, for example, they welcome friends by saying 'bonjour', 'ciao' or 'hola'. Children develop excellent early reading and writing skills. They gain great confidence in their literacy skills as they learn to sound out letters to words.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY361921
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	1012766
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	28
Number of children on roll	46
Name of provider	North Tawton Pre-school Committee
Date of previous inspection	14 April 2015
Telephone number	01837 880165

North Tawton Preschool registered in 1997 and moved to its current premises in 2007. A voluntary management committee manages it. It operates from North Tawton Primary School in Devon, with which it has links. The pre-school is open each weekday from 8.45am to 3.15pm during school term times. It receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school employs nine members of staff, eight of whom hold childcare qualifications at level 3 or above.

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