

Barbican Pre-School

Barbican Pre-School, Barbican Methodist Church, Trewint Crescent, Looe, Cornwall,
PL13 1ET



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

18 May 2016

19 January 2009

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

- Staff use a variety of good teaching methods to encourage and motivate children as they take part in exciting learning experiences which support their individual needs and interests. Children make good progress in their learning.
- Children's emotional well-being is very well supported. Staff are calm and consistent role models who know their key children well. Children behave well, enjoy learning, and feel safe, secure and happy as they test their own ideas during play.
- The management team uses self-evaluation effectively to identify strengths and weaknesses in practice to raise the standard of provision even further. Staff use the knowledge that they gain through training to develop their teaching, such as supporting children's language development.
- Staff accurately assess what children know and can do. This helps staff to plan activities which are interesting, present challenge and help children to achieve the skills they need for future learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff occasionally miss opportunities to support children's mathematical development and recognition of numbers as they play.
- Staff do not always encourage parents to share their children's development at home to help them make even better progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage parents to share information about children's learning at home more frequently to help staff build on what children know and can do elsewhere
- provide more opportunities for children to develop their skills of number recognition and use of numbers during everyday activities, to further build on their early mathematical development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector observed staff and children inside and outside.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including staff qualification certificates and children's records.
- The inspector held discussions with the pre-school manager and staff at appropriate times.

Inspector

Chantelle Baron

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All staff are aware of and know how to safeguard children's welfare. Induction and recruitment procedures are effective and ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children. The manager supports her staff well through regular meetings. Training provides the pre-school manager and staff team with a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities. The management team monitors the development of individual children as well as specific groups of children, and identifies and addresses any gaps in children's learning quickly. The manager monitors the effectiveness of staff training. For example, she checks the positive impact of recent training on children's language and communication. Since the last inspection, the team has improved the outdoor environment to enhance outdoor learning, and staff are more confident in supporting children during group activity times.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a strong understanding of how children learn and develop. They observe and monitor children's progress effectively as they play, to assess their needs, interests and abilities and to plan challenging activities. Staff join in with children's play to guide and support their learning. For example, staff introduce new vocabulary as children build a den in the garden. They get ready to have a picnic, and staff encourage them to predict which objects are taller or smaller as they use large rulers to measure things in the outdoor area.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

There is an effective key-person system, which helps children to become confident and independent as they explore their surroundings, testing out their own ideas as they play. Children have daily opportunities to play outdoors in the fresh air and be physically active. Staff encourage children's awareness of keeping themselves safe as they move between indoors and outdoors and handle a range of tools and equipment safely. Children behave well. They take turns, share resources and develop a good sense of responsibility.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. They are developing good early literacy skills. For example, children confidently say initial word sounds as they play a game of matching objects. They persevere and concentrate as they use pencils to write the letters of their names. Children choose resources enthusiastically. They are confident learners who are willing to try new experiences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY380095
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	829653
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	36
Number of children on roll	33
Name of registered person	Barbican Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP905242
Date of previous inspection	19 January 2009
Telephone number	01503262948

Barbican Pre-School is a committee run group which was registered in October 2008. The pre-school operates from the Barbican Methodist Church Children's Centre in Looe, Cornwall. The pre-school is open Monday to Friday from 8.45am until 11.45am and additionally on Monday and Thursday from 12.15pm until 3.15pm, during term time only. There are seven members of staff working at the pre-school. Six of the staff hold appropriate early years qualifications. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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