

Salcombe Pre-School

Onslow Road, Salcombe, Devon, TQ8 8AG



Inspection date

27 May 2016

Previous inspection date

14 June 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

- Staff form strong bonds with the children and their families. Children benefit from good staff support in their social and emotional development. They gain the confidence to choose from the activities on offer and make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff make the most of activities and routines to teach children to count and make simple calculations. For example, children gain good mathematical skills and vocabulary as they work out how many plates they need for snack time.
- The manager monitors children's learning effectively. This helps her to notice any gaps in children's learning and provide effective support. Staff work in close partnership with outside agencies and support all children to reach their full potential.
- The manager engages the staff well to improve their practice. Since the last inspection, they have developed their reflective practice effectively, helping them to make continuous improvements to activities and routines, which benefit the children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not provide wider learning experiences that cover all areas of the curriculum effectively, especially for those children who prefer to learn outside.
- Overall, staff provide good support for children's learning. However, they do not always respond to children's interests promptly to extend their exploration, investigation and learning further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to take part in more learning experiences across all areas of learning, especially for those who prefer to learn outdoors
- provide more support for children to explore and experiment, and follow their interests during play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff engaged in activities with the children indoors and outside.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documents, including policies and procedures, and children's records.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of inspection.

Inspector

Margaret Baird

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager and staff follow policies and procedures effectively and understand the action to take if they have concerns about children's safety and welfare. Safeguarding is effective. The manager monitors staff performance well and identifies support needed for staff's professional development. For example, staff attend training, which helps them to support children to understand and manage their feelings, promoting their good behaviour. Children and parents get to know staff at the toddler group before they start to attend, helping the children to settle quickly. The good partnerships with parents and other providers help to provide a consistent approach to children's learning. Children become confident and develop a strong sense of belonging in their local community. The manager and staff make the most of the pre-school's close proximity to the local primary school to support children when it is time to move on. For example, children have regular opportunities to visit and become familiar with the school staff.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff assess children's developmental levels effectively and plan activities, which help children to move on to the next steps in their learning. They use successful strategies, such as adult-led groups, to engage all children and effectively support children's communication and language development. For example, children are captivated as staff bring familiar stories to life, using different voices and puppets to great effect. Children enjoy being creative and develop their good physical skills, as they have fun exploring the textures of 'gloop', for example. Staff praise their efforts and effectively encourage children's good self-esteem.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The caring and attentive staff help children to be considerate and take turns during play. Staff provide activities, such as playing musical instruments at group times to make loud and quiet sounds, to encourage cooperation and help children to work together. Staff are good role models, and children learn to listen carefully to each other, respecting the views of others. There are good opportunities for children to climb, balance and improve their coordination. They become independent as they help themselves to healthy snacks, and contribute to the washing up. Good hygiene routines help the children to understand about staying safe and promote their good health.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain the necessary skills for their future learning and starting school. For example, they use scissors confidently under the skilful guidance of staff. They develop good early literacy skills, such as recognising and writing their names, and making their own story books. Children are confident and have a positive attitude to learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	106209
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	839390
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 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	29
Name of registered person	Salcombe Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP517800
Date of previous inspection	14 June 2011
Telephone number	01548 842874

Salcombe Pre-School registered in 1972. It operates from purpose-built premises situated in the grounds of Salcombe Primary School in Devon. The pre-school is open each weekday from 9am to 3.15pm. A parent and toddler group runs alongside the afternoon session on Wednesdays from 2pm until 3.30pm, as well as between 10am and 12pm on Tuesday mornings. The pre-school is managed by a voluntary committee of parents. The committee employs eight staff, two of whom hold early years professional status. A further five members of staff hold level 3 qualifications in childcare, and one is unqualified.

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