

Rodwell Pre-school

Off Rodwell Avenue, Weymouth, Dorset, DT4 8SG



Inspection date	18 January 2017
Previous inspection date	30 January 2013

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

- The management team works very well to include staff in frequently evaluating their practice. This supports them effectively to identify and make ongoing improvements. For example, they have reviewed the play areas and organised these to create an attractive and exciting environment to support all areas of children's learning.
- Children benefit from the consistent liaison staff have with other professionals involved in their care and learning. Staff target activities to effectively support each child, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- Staff are friendly and reassuring. They build strong bonds with children, who gain confidence, settle easily and feel emotionally secure in their care.
- Staff provide an exciting range of purposeful activities that effectively encourage children's participation and learning through play. Children make good progress.
- Children behave well. Staff praise children often for their achievements, for example, when they share toys happily and show kindness to others.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff gather lots of information from parents and children about their likes, dislikes and routines, they do not always gather as much as possible about children's abilities, to support initial planning even more effectively.
- Staff occasionally miss opportunities to build on children's good sense of identity and understanding of similarities and differences between their lives and those of others.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gather more detailed information from parents about their child's developmental starting points to help support staff with the initial planning of activities
- provide even more opportunities for children to develop their sense of identity and understanding of how others live.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's interactions and play indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector viewed documentation, such as operational policies, procedures and required records, including those for committee and staff suitability.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to at the inspection.
- The inspector met with the management team and had discussions about safeguarding, staff recruitment, employment and self-evaluation.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Mary Daniel

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff have a good awareness of their responsibilities to protect children's welfare. The management team follows clear recruitment and employment procedures. It continually assesses staff suitability and supports their professional development well. This has helped staff increase their understanding of children's behaviour and how to manage it more successfully. Parents receive good information about their child's daily activities and the practices staff follow to support their children's well-being. The management team and staff work well together to continually monitor children's progress and close any gaps in their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff identify children's interests and stages of development, and support children well in their play. For example, children eagerly count how many 'purple prickles' there are on the back of a favourite character in a story. They recognise the corresponding written number and start representing other numbers using their fingers. Staff encourage children's curiosity and exploration very well. For example, children show great interest exploring a tray of ice and say 'it's cold'. They enthusiastically try to break the ice with a toy hammer. They talk about the animals, such as polar bears that live in the arctic area of the world. Staff support children's imagination and creativity effectively. For example, children become absorbed playing in the 'mud kitchen' outside. They carefully scoop sand into a saucepan and add leaves and twigs, saying they are making a 'special pie'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children's physical development effectively. For example, younger children smile happily as they climb up the ramp and in and out of the wooden pirate ship. Older children run around excitedly chasing and popping bubbles. Staff encourage children's good health and enjoyment of nutritious foods very well. For example, children learn to 'catch their cough' and put their hands over their mouths when coughing. They help to grow vegetables, such as potatoes and peas, and enjoy eating these for their snacks.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain good skills that prepare them well for their move to school. They develop positive attitudes to learning and are motivated to participate in activities. For example, they eagerly join in singing their days of the week song, and enthusiastically move their arms to demonstrate the actions of a favourite rhyme. Older children concentrate very well. For example, they readily respond to their names at register time. They practise their 'writing' in their special books, and begin to form recognisable letters and shapes. Younger children develop confidence in their abilities and gain good independence skills. For example, they learn to take their coats off and hang them on their pegs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	141003
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	1061450
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	20
Number of children on roll	30
Name of registered person	Rodwell Preschool Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP519825
Date of previous inspection	30 January 2013
Telephone number	01305 788270

Rodwell Pre-School registered in 1996 and is situated in Weymouth, Dorset. The pre-school is open Monday to Friday from 9.15am until 3.45pm, during school terms only. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. There are eight staff employed. Of these, one holds a childcare qualification at level 4, five hold qualifications at level 3 and two hold qualifications at level 2.

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