

Opportunity Group Frome & District



Hayesdown First School, Wyville Road, Frome, Somerset, BA11 2BN

Inspection date	7 February 2017
Previous inspection date	24 January 2014

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 manager monitors children's progress closely with staff. They identify any gaps in children's learning effectively and provide further activities to address these promptly.
- Children behave well. Staff are positive role models for children. They praise children for their efforts, such as helping to tidy away toys from the floor. Children learn to share and be kind to their friends and play cooperatively.
- The manager and staff continually evaluate their practice and make positive improvements. For example, they have introduced a new planning system that helps them provide more activities that successfully support children's individual needs.
- Staff form positive partnerships with parents and they work together very well to manage children's specific needs. Staff regularly share children's good progress with their parents and actively encourage their involvement from home.
- Children respond very positively to staff and benefit from their reassuring approach. Children settle easily, develop good self-esteem and show they feel emotionally secure.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, staff do not organise some group activities as well as possible to engage the interest of all younger children effectively and support their learning further.
- Staff miss opportunities to help children who learn better outdoors to become more familiar with print and learn that it carries meaning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the organisation of some group activities for younger children to engage them more effectively and develop their interest and learning further
- make better use of opportunities to help children who learn better outdoors to become more familiar with print and understand the different information it provides.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children's interactions indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector viewed documentation, such as operational policies, procedures and required records of suitability.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager and discussed children's learning and development with her.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken with at the visit.
- The inspector discussed self-evaluation and plans for development with the manager.

Inspector

Mary Daniel

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All staff complete safeguarding training and have a good understanding of their role and responsibility for protecting children's welfare. The manager implements effective recruitment and employment systems and continually assesses staff suitability and encourages their further professional development. For example, staff have completed training that has raised their awareness of how to help children acknowledge and manage their emotions more easily. Staff work well with other professionals involved in children's care and learning. For example, they communicate well to share children's progress and consistently support their ongoing needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff actively support children's interests and get to know their individual ways of learning very well. They encourage children's creativity, imagination and their understanding of the world effectively. For example, children made pretend lamps and used these as they excitedly crawled through a pop-up tunnel to an imaginary mine underground. They acted out the story of the three little pigs and worked out how to make their houses using toy bricks, straw, long sticks and cardboard boxes. Staff actively support children's communication and their exploration of colour and texture. For example, children described a silky tie as 'soft' and 'shiny'. They talked about other textures, for instance, as staff introduced more vocabulary, such as 'rubbery', 'smooth' and 'rough'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff encourage children's physical well-being very well. All children often play outside and eagerly participate in a variety of activities that motivate them to keep fit and healthy. For example, older children become absorbed as they pretend to dig for treasure outside. Younger children enjoy pushing and pedalling their ride-on toys up and down the windy, sloping path. Children learn caring attitudes. For example, younger children cuddle their dolls and wrap them in blankets. Older children are helpful and willingly tidy up their toys.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress and gain the necessary skills to prepare them well for their move to school. For example, they eagerly sound out the letters of simple words such as 'cup' or 'bus'. Children gain good control when using pens, for instance, as they start to form recognisable letters and shapes, and enjoy drawing a treasure map. They develop a positive interest in numbers. For example, children count how many friends are present and start to recognise two- and three-dimensional shapes. Children become confident communicators and listen attentively to stories. For example, children were quick to tell staff that they had missed out a favourite refrain of a familiar story.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY401463
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1068971
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	40
Name of registered person	Opportunity Group Frome & District Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522284
Date of previous inspection	24 January 2014
Telephone number	01373 467473

The Opportunity Group Frome and District was established in 1975 and is situated in the grounds of Hayesdown First School, in Frome, Somerset. The group is open Monday to Friday, from 9am until 3.15pm, during term times only. The group receives government funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. There are eight staff employed. The manager holds early years professional status, one member of staff holds a childcare qualification at level 4, and six staff hold qualifications at level 3.

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