

# Merlin Playscheme

Highweek Community Primary School, Coronation Road, Newton Abbot, Devon,  
TQ12 1TX



<b>Inspection date</b>	14 February 2017
Previous inspection date	11 April 2014

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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		Not applicable	

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Staff provide children with a well-resourced and exciting range of activities that meets their needs and interests. Children make independent choices about their play.
- Children enjoy their time at the club. They develop strong attachments and trusting relationships with staff. These good relationships help to promote children's self-esteem and well-being.
- Partnerships with parents and the host school are good. Staff share information with them about activities and routines in which the children take part. This supports children's continuity of care.
- Staff support children to lead a healthy lifestyle. They take part in regular physical activities, both inside and outside.
- The manager and her staff use self-evaluation and consultation with parents and children well to help review the quality of the provision and identify areas to improve.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff support children to develop good independence skills, opportunities to encourage younger children to help others and contribute to the wider group are missed.
- The manager has not fully developed partnerships with other schools that some children attend, to help find out more about what children know, can do and their developing interests.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop opportunities for younger children to have responsibilities and contribute to the group
- develop partnerships with other schools children attend to help staff learn more about children's interests and what they know and can do.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children inside.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies, qualification certificates and children's records.
- The inspector spoke to some parents to gain their views.

### Inspector

Katherine Lamb

## Inspection findings

### **Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good**

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Good recruitment and vetting procedures help to ensure that staff are suitable for their roles. The manager has ensured staff are aware of the procedures for reporting concerns or allegations. The manager has used her experience and knowledge of good practice to make changes. These have continued to enhance the quality of experiences children receive at the club. For example, they have recently reviewed the layout of the rooms and changed where they put resources to help children engage further in their play and activities. The manager provides good support to staff and evaluates their practice. She supports staff to raise the quality of the provision, including through training. For example, staff work towards gaining recognised childcare qualifications.

### **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good**

Staff observe and listen to children to plan activities that interest them. Children enjoy the range of resources available and demonstrate good levels of engagement in their chosen activity. Staff support children to share and take turns, for example, when playing computer games. Children are self-assured, such as when chatting with staff and other children. They confidently express preferences with regard to their play, for example, when organising a game of hide and seek. Children enjoy creative activities, which also help to support their literacy development in school. For example, they practise pencil control while drawing and colouring, and they write their names on their pictures and Valentine's cards. Children play card games that require them to count, building on their growing mathematical skills.

### **Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good**

Children form new and strong friendships in the club. Staff provide a good role model to them. They have a calm and dependable approach, which helps children to understand what is expected. Children's behaviour is good. Children approach their play with enthusiasm and staff support them so they are fully occupied throughout the session. Staff provide lots of space and activities that support children's physical well-being. Children enjoy their interactions with staff and involve them in their games. For example, staff enthusiastically join in the football games that children initiate and support children as they learn to do press ups and sit ups. Children are encouraged to get involved, try new things and celebrate their achievements. They develop a good understanding of similarities and differences in the world around them. For example, they play with a range of resources that reflects their own and others' backgrounds.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	161476
<b>Local authority</b>	Devon
<b>Inspection number</b>	1068570
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	4 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	24
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	1
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Merlin Playscheme Committee
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP519925
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	11 April 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	0796 8891535

Merlin Playscheme registered in 2001 and is run by a committee. It operates from Highweek Primary School, close to the town centre of Newton Abbot. All children share access to a secure, enclosed outdoor play area. The playscheme is open from 8.30am to 6pm on Monday to Friday during all school holidays, except for the Christmas holiday. It is closed on bank holidays. It also operates a breakfast club between 7.50am to 8.50am, during school term times. There are eight staff who work directly with the children and all staff hold appropriate early years qualifications. The manager is qualified to level 4.

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