Sheepsetting Pre-School

Cross in Hand C of E Primary School, Sheepsetting Lane, Cross in Hand, Heathfield, East Sussex, TN21 0XG



Inspection date	26 April 2017
Previous inspection date	13 March 2015

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

- Leaders have very high expectations for themselves, the staff and for the children in their care. They use self-evaluation effectively and understand the importance of involving parents, staff and children in helping to identify changes to continually review the quality of their provision.
- Staff provide exciting teaching and learning environments, activities and resources that, overall, support children in helping them to become inquisitive and enthusiastic learners.
- Partnerships with other professionals and parents are strong. Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities benefit greatly from a joined-up approach to their progress. Information is shared on a regular basis and this helps children to achieve.
- Staff regularly observe and assess children's learning. They use this information well to plan precisely for their next steps and to quickly identify gaps to help support them.
- The key-person system works well. Children form strong attachments to their key person and this helps them to become emotionally secure quickly.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff occasionally miss opportunities to extend children's already good speech and understanding of language.
- Leaders do not yet make effective use of systems to monitor staff practice and help them support each other fully as a team.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance teaching and extend even further children's good speech and language awareness
- make more effective use of all systems to monitor staff practice that continually raises their awareness of working well and supporting each other as a team.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held a leadership discussion with the manager and a committee member.
- The inspector sampled relevant documentation, including children's records, staff records and suitability checks.
- The inspector and the manager completed a joint observation together.
- The inspector spoke with parents, staff and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed children's play and staff's interactions in both the indoor and the outdoor environment.

Inspector

Gwendolyn Andrews

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The new manager has settled well into her role and successfully works in partnership with the committee. She has well thought out action and improvement plans, showing an ambitious and professional attitude in raising the quality of all areas of the pre-school. Safeguarding is effective. The leadership team has a good relationship with the local authority and staff complete and attend regular training. They have a good understanding of the processes and procedures to follow if they should become concerned for a child in their care and in recognising possible signs of abuse. Staff recruitment is robust and ensures the suitability of individuals who are working directly with children. Daily risk assessments are completed to help minimise potential hazards and help to keep children safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff communicate well with parents and encourage them to be an active part in their children's learning and development. Parents have access to the online journal system and are invited to attend meetings to discuss their children's progress. Staff provide well for children's individual interests and choices. For example, they happily take resources and activities outdoors at children's request. Staff constantly praise children for their efforts. They encourage them to be independent and to use their developing problem-solving skills; for example, when fitting pieces together to complete the train track. Staff encourage children to use musical instruments and sing songs of their choice, helping them to build on their memory, imagination and recall skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are very confident and independent. For example, they access the toys independently and take pride in their own self-care. Children learn about the differences in themselves and others and how to manage their own feelings. For example, they use a mirror to look at their own expressions and discuss how they are feeling. The children enjoy the new village project, during which they have playtime with the school children. This helps them to build on important social skills, learn to share and play with others and prepares them for their eventual move to school. Children behave well and staff are good role models who teach them about respect for others.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points, including those who receive funding. All children are engaged, happy and are building important friendships. Children learn about the first stages of risk in their play; for example, when using real tools such as screwdrivers and workbenches. They are developing the necessary skills for the next stage of their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY309278

Local authority East Sussex

Inspection number 1092376

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 2 - 4

Total number of places 24

Number of children on roll 50

Name of registered person Sheepsetting Pre-School Committee

Registered person unique

reference number

RP910859

Date of previous inspection 13 March 2015

Telephone number 01435 866268

Sheepsetting Pre-School is a committee run group that was registered in 2005. It is situated in the grounds of Cross-in-Hand Church of England Primary School, Heathfield, East Sussex. The pre-school is open each weekday during school term times. From Monday to Thursday, the pre-school is open from 9am to 3pm. Friday sessions are for rising-fives only and run from 9am until midday. The pre-school receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are five members of staff who work with the children, three of whom are qualified to at least level 3.

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