

Stawley Under Fives Preschool



Appley Pavilion, Appley Cross, Stawley, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 0HH

Inspection date	12 May 2017
Previous inspection date	22 January 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Management shows drive and commitment to achieving high-quality outcomes for children. Self-evaluation is rigorous, identifying where improvements will benefit children the most and measuring success by the positive impact on children's learning. For example, staff identify improvements in young children's behaviour since teaching them sign language to help them express strong emotions.
- Children make excellent progress in learning from their starting points. The manager's exceptionally strong monitoring of the learning programme identifies any gaps in learning early. These are rapidly addressed, so children quickly catch up. For example, boys' early reading skills have greatly improved since introducing joke books and funny stories which they thoroughly enjoy retelling.
- Children are extremely confident, demonstrating high levels of emotional security and self-esteem. Excellent settling-in processes help them get to know staff, who use these visits extremely well to plan for when children first attend. For example, they make sure that favourite resources are easy to find when children come in, so they are eager to play and happy to say goodbye to their parents.
- Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities receive extremely good support. Staff have excellent relationships with parents and other professionals. Highly effective joint planning provides consistency in helping children achieve and make progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop resources that encourage children to explore their interest in the world around them.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff engaged in learning activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector and manager completed a joint observation of an activity.
- The inspector spoke to committee members, staff, parents and children.
- The inspector sampled required documents, including safeguarding procedures and talked to staff about their understanding of how to implement these.
- The inspector reviewed systems to monitor children's progress and plan for their future learning.

Inspector

Julie Neal

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The management committee values the skills of the manager and staff highly and they support their ongoing professional development extremely well. Staff make very good use of training opportunities to improve children's learning further. For example, following training, they reviewed planning to more effectively involve children in the process. This has been extremely successful. As well as coming in eagerly looking forward to each day's activities, being involved in decision making extends children's learning extremely effectively. For example, they are highly confident as they negotiate and compromise with each other about which activities should be included and when. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have an excellent understanding of local procedures to safeguard children and how to implement these to protect children from harm.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff use their excellent knowledge of individual children to provide enjoyable, exciting and challenging experiences that inspire them to want to learn more. For example, children draw round each other to see who is tallest and shortest. Staff extend this extremely well, encouraging children to use their excellent number skills to measure the outlines and work out the differences in height. Children digging in the garden talk about tunnelling their way through the world. Staff talk to them about where they may end up. Children respond, Africa and staff quickly engage them in a discussion about what they know about Africa and things they imagine they might see there. Staff have extremely effective systems in place to share information with other early years settings children attend. They plan very well together to make sure that learning objectives are consistent.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children's behaviour is extremely good. For example, during a group discussion, some children are bursting to contribute but wait their turn before very confidently sharing their views. Children have an excellent understanding of how their bodies work. For example, before strenuous exercise, they know to do gentle stretches to warm up their muscles so they do not hurt themselves. Staff recognise the need to extend resources further to better reflect children's interest in the wider world.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children acquire excellent skills that prepare them extremely well for the next stage in their learning, including going to school. Most children consistently achieve at higher than expected levels for their age, particularly in their communication and independence skills. For example, younger children ask questions, such as, 'How do I know my heart beats when I am asleep?'. Older children quickly change into their physical education kit and are extremely pleased that with practice they are becoming faster at this.

Setting details

Unique reference number	143081
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1089656
Type of provision	Sessional 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	30
Number of children on roll	25
Name of registered person	Stawley Under Fives Association Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522316
Date of previous inspection	22 January 2015
Telephone number	07753552736

Stawley Under Fives Preschool registered in 1992 and is managed by a voluntary committee. It operates from the cricket pavilion and grounds situated on the edge of Appley, near Stawley, Somerset. The setting is open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9am to 3pm, during term times. It receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are seven members of staff. One has a BA (Honours) Degree in Early Childhood Studies, five hold an early years qualification at level 3 and one holds a PGCE (Post Graduate Certificate in Education) and Qualified Teacher Status.

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