

Pelican Children's Centre

Pelican Centre, 66 Saltash Road, Keyham, Plymouth, Devon, PL2 1QS



Inspection date	10 October 2017
Previous inspection date	15 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

- Children are happy. They are busy and eagerly explore the activities staff prepare each day. Children make good progress in relation to their starting points.
- Indoors, staff organise the setting effectively. Resources and equipment are located so children can access them independently, to help extend their current interests and develop new ones.
- Staff are good role models for children. They provide children with positive examples of how to interact with others, such as being polite and kind. Children behave well.
- Staff work successfully with parents. They exchange information that helps them to support children consistently. Parents contribute to the targets staff set at nursery to build on these links even further.
- The management team supports staff effectively. They meet regularly and provide ongoing support to help develop staff skills and teaching practice. The quality of teaching is consistent.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently build on the outdoor learning opportunities to fully support children who prefer to learn outdoors.
- Staff in the pre-school room do not consistently make good use of routine experiences, such as mealtimes, to support all children to extend their communication skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on opportunities in the outdoor area to support children who prefer to learn outside to enhance their learning even further
- make better use of organised activities to extend children's communication skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children in both age groups playing with their friends and staff.
- The inspector spoke to parents, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and the early years teacher.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager to discuss how she organises the setting, supports staff, and plans for children's learning and development.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents, including children's learning records, staff qualifications and policies and procedures.

Inspector

Tristine Hardwick

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff know how to identify and report any concerns they have about children. The provider follows effective recruitment procedures to help ensure new staff are suitable to work with children, such as completing suitable person checks. The management team monitors children's progress well. It makes regular checks and has discussions with key staff to help ensure children receive the individual support they need. Staff work successfully with other professionals, such as language therapists. They share development information and meet regularly to help ensure they provide consistent care and learning, supporting children's emotional development well. Since the last inspection, staff have made improvements and have successfully addressed the recommendations. For example, they have extended the range of creative resources and organised it more effectively so children can extend their creative ideas fully.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff gather relevant information from parents, which helps them to settle children quickly to begin learning immediately. Staff complete ongoing observations and regularly summarise children's achievements. This enables them to provide experiences that continually challenge children and motivate them to learn. Staff use a range of teaching skills to help them effectively support children's development. For example, to encourage younger children's very early interest in writing, staff mix flour and glitter to appeal to children's curiosity and sensory interests, so children touch and explore the materials. Older children discuss their thoughts with staff about what will happen when they mix materials together, such as sugar and water. Children predict the outcome that 'it will become sticky', helping to support their thinking and vocabulary successfully.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children learn to work as part of a group, as well as to be independent. For example, they work with staff to peel fruit at lunchtime and fill their own cups when they are thirsty. This helps to support children's personal needs well and staff extend these opportunities successfully. For instance, after recent training, staff now encourage children to wipe their noses and watch themselves in a mirror at the same time, helping to develop their sense of good health. Children are sociable. They enjoy outdoor play together, which helps them to prepare for larger social occasions, such as school.

Outcomes for children are good

Children build strong physical skills. They are energetic and learn to coordinate their bodies, such as when using climbing apparatus. They develop their smaller muscles as they use small tools, such as brushes to make marks. Children develop their mathematical awareness effectively. For example, older children concentrate well as they examine sizes of different blocks of wood and test their ideas as they use weighing scales to compare weight, supporting mathematical exploration. Younger children keenly involve themselves in imaginary games, such as playing shopkeepers. Children prepare well for their next stages in development and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	117138
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	1068415
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	32
Number of children on roll	60
Name of registered person	The Pelican Children's Centre
Registered person unique reference number	RP517718
Date of previous inspection	15 January 2014
Telephone number	01752 551191

Pelican Children's Centre registered in 1997. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 5pm, term time only. There are 16 members of staff. Of these, one holds early years professional status, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 4, and 13 hold qualifications at level 3. The nursery receives funding for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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