

St Eval Pre-School

Lincoln Row, St Eval, Wadebridge, Cornwall, PL27 7TR



Inspection date

15 November 2017

Previous inspection date

13 May 2013

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

- Staff provide a stimulating environment and a good range of educational activities. They make effective use of their resources to engage children's interest and promote learning well. For example, staff successfully attract children's interest in books in the cosy canopied reading area.
- Staff work well in partnership with parents and others to provide additional individual support for children, to effectively help children achieve their best developmental outcomes.
- The management committee provides good support to the manager and staff, which results in a well-led pre-school. Their effective self-evaluation process accurately identifies areas for further development. The manager and staff monitor children's progress well and take prompt action to address any gaps in learning.
- Staff organise groups of children with effective consideration. For example, they ensure that children will start school together at the same time, to support continuous friendships. Children feel secure and are happy in the pre-school. They make good progress in their social and emotional development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Management and staff do not fully involve all parents consistently in the assessment of children's progress, to better support this process.
- Although staff attend training to improve their teaching skills, such as in sign language, they do not always use their new skills consistently well, to extend support in children's communication.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the opportunities to involve all parents consistently in the assessment process, to develop positive relationships further and enhance support to children
- make consistently good use of training to put new teaching skills into practice, to increase support in the relevant areas of children's development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children in their indoor and outdoor activities.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff, committee representative and parents.
- The inspector completed two joint observations with the manager, one in each age group.
- The inspector read samples of children's development records and the self-evaluation form.
- The inspector checked required documentation, including evidence of staff qualifications and suitability checks.

Inspector
Julie Wright

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Management and staff have made good improvements since the last inspection, to the benefit of families. For example, they have made information about pre-school activities more accessible to parents. In addition to the book bags, staff provide activity packs for children to borrow, to increase learning opportunities at home. Relocation of the office has created an additional playroom for children. The manager and staff develop their range of play resources with success. For instance, they were inspired to create a three-dimensional construction area and to design a new matching game for children. Current fundraising is for the further development of the outdoor play areas. Safeguarding is effective. The management committee, manager and staff have a good understanding of their responsibilities. They complete relevant training and know how to safeguard children's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good knowledge of the children's learning needs and are skilful in their planning. For example, they do activities with individual children and in small groups, to develop children's confidence well. Children show good concentration and listening skills in their activities. For instance, older children focus well as they enjoy a game of sound lotto with staff. Younger children have good interest and interactions at story times. Children particularly enjoy sensory play materials, such as sand, water, dough and foam. Staff provide effective challenges to children during activities. For instance, they encourage children's mathematical understanding well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff manage behaviour well with positive methods that children understand. For example, children readily stop, look and listen when staff indicate it is time to do something else. Children play well, both independently and with their friends. They show very good cooperation, such as when they work closely together to build a train track. Children have warm relationships with staff and enjoy their nurturing approach. Staff organise exciting activities to help children learn about people and their community. For example, visitors to the pre-school include a lifeguard, police-dog handler and a chef. Children benefit from regular exercise, such as in their 'wake and shake' sessions and in outdoor play. Staff are conscientious about health and safety for children. For instance, they work well to protect and support children's individual dietary and health needs.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy pre-school and learning through play. They settle well and are keen to join in. For example, children readily gather for registration time at the start of the session. Younger children explore their surroundings with interest and find plenty to do. Children make good progress from their starting points and are well prepared for their next stage in learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	102862
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	1061141
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	32
Number of children on roll	44
Name of registered person	St Eval Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP520043
Date of previous inspection	13 May 2013
Telephone number	01841 540076

St Eval Pre-School is a committee-run group. It has been running for over 30 years and operates from a purpose-built building in the village of St Eval, Cornwall. The pre-school operates during term time only and is open each weekday from 9am to 3pm, except on Tuesday when it closes at midday. There are eight members of staff, including the manager. Of these, two hold qualifications at level 4, two at level 3 and the manager holds a degree qualification at level 6.

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