

Crag Bank Under Fives

Crag Bank Village Hall, Jesson Way, Crag Bank, Carnforth, LA5 9EG



Inspection date	11 December 2017
Previous inspection date	10 November 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

- The pre-school room and the outdoor learning environments, including the outdoor classroom, are stimulating, interesting and very thoughtfully organised. Staff provide children with opportunities for rich and exciting learning experiences that challenge and interest them, very effectively.
- The managers are dedicated and committed practitioners who are committed to the success of the playgroup and pre-school provision. They use self-evaluation effectively and actively include the comments of the staff team, committee, parents and children. This helps to raise the overall quality of all areas of the provision.
- The key-person system is well established and effective. Staff know their key children well and the children develop close relationships with them. Children develop good levels of confidence and a strong sense of emotional security which helps to prepare them well in readiness for the next stages in their learning.
- Staff work effectively with parents to involve them in their children's learning and development. Parents say how much their children look forward to attending and how their confidence, speech and language skills have increased since they first started.
- The well-qualified staff team demonstrate good role models for children. They build on children's good behaviour, confidence and make good use of positive praise and encouragement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There are times when staff do not always maximise opportunities to fully support children's independence and self-care.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the already good opportunities for supporting children's independence and self-care even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with children and members of staff during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation and checked the suitability of all those associated with the setting.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with one of the managers in the pre-school.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection and from written testimonials on the setting's social media site.

Inspector

Carys Millican

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management ensures that all staff have a thorough knowledge of how they would recognise any signs of abuse. Staff know the procedures they would follow to report any concerns, including protecting children from extreme views and behaviour. The management follow robust recruitment and induction procedures and ensure good staff-to-child ratios are enforced. Staff receive good support in their professional development and training, and are suitable to work with children. This helps to safeguard children's welfare successfully. The management team monitors the progress of all children and ensures that staff support children's development effectively. Staff promptly identify and address any gaps in children's learning and share this information with parents, to ensure that all children are supported. The management makes good use of additional funding to support specific children's ongoing development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified staff make regular observations and accurate assessments of children's development. They plan a range of activities that interests children and moves them on in their learning. Children enjoy printing and painting. They manipulate dough, explore the magnets, dress up and play imaginatively in the hospital role-play area. Staff provide a wealth of natural materials for investigation, indoors and outdoors. They skilfully support children's language skills as they play. For example, they encourage children to describe what they find hidden in the sand while looking through magnifying glasses.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and well settled in the playgroup and pre-school rooms. Staff are sensitive and caring, and they respond quickly to children's emotional needs to ensure they remain comfortable and content. Children's good health is promoted through healthy eating and daily exercise. They enjoy a range of physical activities from visiting professionals which children actively and enthusiastically take part in. Children have daily access to fresh air outdoors where they can explore, use their imagination and have adventures in a safe and well-managed environment. Staff provide experiences to help children learn about the world around them, such as the Queen's birthday celebrations, Remembrance Day, and Diwali. Strong partnerships with local schools support children's emotional needs extremely well when they leave the setting and move on to school.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities make good progress. Pre-school children recognise letters and link these to the sounds that they represent as they develop excellent literacy skills. They recognise their name and practise their writing skills. Children count confidently and use numbers in their play. They relish the responsibilities they are given to help adults, when collecting the fruit brought from home and while helping at snack times. Children in receipt of funding benefit from the activities promoted through visiting dance and sport professionals that help them to make progress. They are developing the skills and attitudes they need for future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	309280
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1103566
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	30
Number of children on roll	27
Name of registered person	Crag Bank Under Fives Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP518575
Date of previous inspection	10 November 2014
Telephone number	07870 816 771

Crag Bank Under Fives registered 1996 and is run by a voluntary management committee. The setting employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 2 and five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The setting opens from Monday to Thursday, term time only. Sessions are from 08.30am until 4pm. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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