

Mundeford Pre-School

Methodist Church Hall, Mundeford Lane, Mundeford, Christchurch, Dorset, BH23 3HL



Inspection date	24 January 2018
Previous inspection date	23 February 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- Since the last inspection the well-qualified provider has successfully raised the quality of teaching to a consistently good level by giving staff rigorous coaching support. This has helped develop their skills.
- Children enjoy well-planned play activities that successfully match their learning needs. They are excited, motivated learners who make good progress.
- Children are well behaved and build strong relationships from the very beginning of their pre-school days. Staff are friendly and give attentive care and support to children to help them settle and feel happy.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Plenty of communication takes place with information shared regularly about children's care, learning and development. Staff provide ideas for activities at home which help parents become the first early educators of their children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although teaching has improved greatly, at times, staff ask too many questions without giving children time to think and respond.
- Children who prefer to learn outside do not consistently have the best opportunities compared to other groups of children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- allow children more time to think, process information and respond to questions they are asked
- develop the environment further to help support those children who prefer to learn outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to children, observed the children's play activities, looked at the available resources and read relevant documentation.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider/manager to discuss her leadership and management, including self-evaluation methods.
- The inspector spoke to some parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the provider/manager.

Inspector

Lorraine Wardlaw

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff keep their knowledge of child protection issues up to date in a variety of ways, including through regular discussion and training. Self-evaluation is accurate and there is sustained improvement since the last inspection. The provider closely monitors staff practice, takes prompt action when under performance is identified and offers clear support for staff professional development. Children's progress is also scrutinised well to help ensure teaching is responsive to any identified gaps in their achievement. For example, after identifying boys needed more support in their fine-motor skills to help with pre-writing skills, staff received training. There are strong links with the local school to ensure the move for children is smooth.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The staff are successfully adapting their planning to make good use of children's ideas and interests. For example, all children contribute their choice of activities to the 'mind map' using their words or own pictures. Overall, the staff provide effective teaching support for children during their active engagement of a stimulating range of activities. Children are busy and explore different materials and textures, such as pasta and sand. The staff use play well to support children's mathematics, such as counting and comparing sizes of sandcastles and the shapes of the moulds on the top. An exceptionally well-planned grocer's shop entices the children into pretend play with real fruit and vegetables. Staff teach them the different words of the fruit they see and smell, such as a 'pomegranate', extending their senses and vocabulary well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff offer children a warm welcome and create a stimulating play environment. They take every opportunity to praise and acknowledge children. Children of all ages develop high self-esteem and the confidence to become active learners. For example, nearly all children confidently chose to join in 'dough gym' using their hands, fingers and large body movements to manipulate dough along to music. Children have good opportunities to learn about the wider world. They go on outings in the community which the staff safely risk assess to ensure hazards are minimised. Children develop a positive attitude towards leading a healthy lifestyle. They prepare and eat fresh fruit at snack time and enjoy indoor physical games with their friends, listening and following instructions well.

Outcomes for children are good

Children show valuable skills for their future school life. They have positive attitudes towards learning, acquire good social skills and skills in language and mathematics. For example, they talk about the money they need in the shop to buy food, count and add. Children are keen to make a 'map' for their cars to go on, making marks on large paper. They work with their friends using pipes for cars to travel along. They show a strong interest in technology toys, such as the camera, taking photographs of staff and children in play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	144296
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	1086666
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	11
Name of registered person	Elaine Joan Salter
Registered person unique reference number	RP513074
Date of previous inspection	23 February 2017
Telephone number	07443433359

Mudeford Pre-School registered in 1999 under the current ownership. The pre-school operates from 8.45am to 11.45am on Monday to Friday and offers afternoon sessions from 11.45am to 3.15pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, during term time only. There is a breakfast club from 8.15am every morning. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for children aged three and four years. There are five members of staff, including the owner/manager, who work with the children. The owner has an early years degree and the other staff members hold early years qualifications at level 2 or 3.

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