

Whitchurch Preschool

School Road, Whitchurch, Tavistock, Devon, PL19 9SR



Inspection date

25 January 2018

Previous inspection date

25 November 2014

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

- The manager monitors children's progress exceptionally well. She implements highly effective strategies alongside other professionals, to provide children with specific programmes that meet their individual needs very well. Children make substantial progress in their development.
- Staff very effectively promote children's health. They take children to visit local hotels, and impressively learn how to cook alongside a qualified chef. They have extensive opportunities to be physically active. They engage in innovative conservation activities and visit highly stimulating places, such as the donkey park and pony centre.
- Staff make highly reflective observations and assessments, and use these meticulously to provide children with highly challenging and enriching activities. Children gain excellent confidence, imagination and perseverance skills to a very high level.
- Partnerships with parents are highly effective. Staff use parents' unlimited strengths and skills to benefit children significantly, for example, through woodwork and cookery sessions.
- The manager has an excellent understanding of the learning and development requirements. Coupled with her high qualifications and extensive experience, she nurtures children's development very well, to help them reach their full potential.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's already excellent sustained thinking skills, to help them solve problems further during activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a range of activities and engaged with children throughout the day.
- The inspector held an interview with the manager to discuss matters relating to leadership and management.
- The inspector held a joint observation with the manager, to assess the quality and evaluation of staff practice.
- The inspector spoke to parents at appropriate times of the day to seek their views of the provision.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including safeguarding policies, the pre-school's self-evaluation, children's assessments, and suitability of staff.

Inspector

Joanne Steward

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have an extensive knowledge and excellent understanding of child protection procedures, helping to promote children's safety and welfare to a high level. For example, comprehensive procedures help them to protect children from any threats, including extremist behaviours. The manager and staff are highly reflective, and use their self-evaluation productively to continually review their outstanding practice. For example, a strong emphasis on supporting children's individual needs and abilities helps children make rapid progress in their development. The manager implements robust staff supervisory sessions and uses these to plan targeted training sessions. For example, activities and strategies strongly focus on children's personal, social and emotional development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The quality of teaching is inspirational. Staff give mathematics a very strong focus. Younger children name flat two-dimensional shapes, such as 'hexagon' and 'pentagon'. Older children identify solid three-dimensional shapes, such as 'cuboid', 'cylinder' and 'cone'. They use this knowledge exceptionally well, for example, to create different shaped animals, such as penguins and garden birds, exploring the characteristics of everyday objects. Although, occasionally staff miss opportunities to help extend children's sustained thinking skills further. All children learn about 'estimation' and use exceptional number language to discuss and write 'teen' numbers. They learn how to 'add' and 'subtract' to find out answers, such as how many children are in the group.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children's behaviour is exemplary. They work exceptionally well together, supporting each other when needed. For example, children ask their friends for help when attaching paper to the painting easel. They meticulously discuss how to achieve this and accomplish their goals through highly effective teamwork. Staff have developed highly nurturing relationships with children. They respond immediately to their care needs and follow children's interests extremely well. For instance, staff enabled children to make 'family members' using a wide selection of resources, supporting their growing independence.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make excellent progress from their starting points. Younger children enthusiastically learn to hear and say letter sounds. Older children impressively blend sounds together to read words accurately. All children have an exceptional understanding of the way books are structured, and use outstanding vocabulary, such as 'author', to develop their language and literacy skills. All children flourish in this enriching pre-school. They are exceptionally well prepared for their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	106278
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	1070070
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	26
Number of children on roll	27
Name of registered person	Whitchurch Preschool
Registered person unique reference number	RP517759
Date of previous inspection	25 November 2014
Telephone number	07812 856353

Whitchurch Preschool registered in 1994 and is situated in Tavistock, Devon. The pre-school operates Monday to Friday from 8.45am to 3.45pm, during term time only. The setting receives free education funding for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school employs three members of staff who work directly with the children. The manager holds early years professional status and is a qualified teacher. Two members of staff hold qualifications at levels 3 and 4.

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