

The Garden Pre-School

Emmanuel Baptist Church, Western Terrace, Falmouth, Cornwall, TR11 4QJ



Inspection date

30 January 2018

Previous inspection date

12 March 2015

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 form secure relationships with staff and positive friendships with other children. This successfully supports their well-being and self-esteem.
- Children learn to identify and manage risk effectively. For example, they follow good procedures to play safely outdoors and tidy away toys after use, to minimise trip hazards. This helps to keep themselves and others safe.
- Leaders and managers follow good recruitment and induction procedures for new committee members and staff. They complete robust and regular checks to ensure that adults are suitable to work with children and understand their role and responsibilities.
- Staff accurately establish children's starting points and plan enjoyable learning experiences, based on children's individual preferences and abilities. Children make good progress from their starting points.
- Assessments of children's learning are precise. Staff use these well to accurately and promptly identify and address any gaps in children's learning. Parents are actively involved in this process.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not provide consistently challenging learning opportunities, to help older children make more rapid progress during self-initiated play.
- Staff do not extend children's keen interest in counting, early writing and sensory exploration even further when outdoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend older children's learning further during child-initiated play
- increase the good learning opportunities outdoors even further so children engage more in counting, early writing and sensory exploration.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the premises, toys and equipment.
- The inspector spoke with the acting manager, children, staff and parents at appropriate times.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including safeguarding procedures, children's records, and staff and committee members' suitability checks.
- The inspector observed interactions between staff and children at play.
- The inspector and the acting manager undertook a joint observation and evaluation of an activity.

Inspector

Jayne Pascoe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and all staff know the signs and symptoms that may cause concern for children's safety and well-being. They are confident to follow the local safeguarding procedures if required. Staff receive good support to regularly update and extend their knowledge and skills, such as through training and reading research articles. This has helped them to support children's early reading skills. For example, children successfully follow visual prompts to promote their safety and learn good behaviour. Parents are actively involved in children's learning. For instance, staff provide good information about children's next steps for learning and offer ideas to help parents support children's progress at home. Links with other settings are effective. This helps to achieve continuity in children's learning between settings and supports children in their move to school. Good use of self-evaluation helps the setting to accurately identify and address areas to make improvements.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

During adult-led activities, staff interact well with children to support their learning. For example, younger children develop good exploratory skills and increase their vocabulary as they investigate brightly coloured feathers. They react with wonder and delight as they follow the lead of staff, who show them how to stroke their skin gently, describing the experience using words such as 'tickly', 'soft' and 'smooth'. Staff encourage older children to count, add and subtract at snack time. Children share the food between themselves to enjoy equal amounts, which increases their understanding of quantities and sharing. This good practice prepares children well for their future learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are good role models. Children follow their positive example and are kind and well mannered. They are developing good independence, as they persevere to put on their coat by themselves before playing outdoors. Children enjoy healthy and nutritious snacks and have free access to drinking water. They play outdoors each day to enjoy fresh air and physical exercise, which supports their good health. Children learn about the local community and wider world through activities such as role play. For example, they have created a pretend spaceship. They imagine travelling into the galaxy to observe the Earth from a great distance. Children understand and respect cultural diversity, as they explore people's similarities and differences and learn about festivals.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enter the setting enthusiastically and separate easily from their parents. Their communication and creative skills develop well. For instance, children express themselves clearly to share ideas and experiences. They eagerly initiate imaginative play with their friends, as they explore the pretend spaceship. Children balance and develop good coordination outdoors. For example, they fill, move and empty small wheelbarrows. Children learn many new skills in readiness for their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	102879
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	1088920
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	24
Number of children on roll	37
Name of registered person	The Garden Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522090
Date of previous inspection	12 March 2015
Telephone number	01326 315002

The Garden Pre-School is a committee-run group that registered in 1998. It operates from two rooms that adjoin the Baptist church hall, in Falmouth, Cornwall. The pre-school is open Monday to Thursday from 9am until 3pm and on Friday from 9am to midday during term time. The pre-school is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school employs seven members of staff. Of these, four hold early years qualifications at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 6.

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