

Holmer Pre-School

Holmer Church of England Academy, Holmer Road, HEREFORD, HR4 9RX



Inspection date	14 May 2018
Previous inspection date	28 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

- Managers are passionate, ambitious and inspirational. Staff are highly dedicated to their roles. Children's safety, welfare and learning is promoted at an outstanding level.
- Staff are welcoming, sensitive and nurturing. They get to know children and their families very well from the outset. Children are highly content and delight in attending.
- Staff are excellent role models who give children the help they need to adhere to the simple boundaries. Children behave well and keenly participate in the nursery routines.
- Children develop an exceptionally positive attitude towards learning. The environment is bright, stimulating and very well resourced, indoors and outdoors.
- Teaching is excellent. Staff plan a range of rich, varied and imaginative activities that meet children's needs. All children are progressing very well from their starting points.
- Staff provide exceptional support for children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities. They benefit from the targeted help and support they need to begin to catch up with their peers and swiftly move forwards in their development.
- Partnership working is incredibly strong. Staff share highly detailed two-way information with parents, other providers and professionals. This promotes excellent continuity in children's care and education.
- Self-evaluation is very strong. The manager reflects clearly on strengths and weaknesses. She already has excellent plans in place to continually develop practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- implement the plans to monitor children's progress even more deeply and further extend the curriculum to help maintain excellent teaching and outstanding attainment.

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 completed a joint observation with the manager of the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to staff and held a meeting with the nursery manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant records, documentation and policies. She also checked evidence of the suitability of the managers and staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Josephine Heath

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Most staff are highly qualified. Managers supervise staff well. Staff benefit from excellent opportunities to upskill. This has a highly positive impact on the quality of care and education they provide. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The nursery is very well organised and record keeping is highly efficient. The nursery environment is clean, safe and secure. Staff carry out robust risk assessment checks daily to minimise any potential dangers or hazards. Managers and staff have exceptionally strong understanding of different child protection issues. They know how to act promptly on any concerns. This helps to protect children from different types of harm.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff have high expectations of what children can achieve. They routinely assess their development. They make excellent use of what they know to provide children with highly challenging and exciting activities. For example, children enjoy learning about the world. They investigate technology, explore natural materials and go on a bug hunt outside. Children delight in being creative and imaginative. They relish role-play games, such as going on holiday, drawing and making models from playdough. Managers have a strong overview of the progress children make. Nevertheless, they plan to continue to enhance their monitoring systems, so that they can review children's progress as deeply as possible. They intend to use the information they obtain to further extend the curriculum, to help maintain excellent teaching and outstanding attainment.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children thrive in this nursery. They are highly confident and independent. Staff talk to children about the importance of managing their own physical needs. Staff promote healthy eating and provide nutritional snacks. They encourage physical activities. Children enjoy movement sessions and balancing on stilts and riding on bikes or cars outdoors. Staff ensure children adopt hygiene routines and understand the importance of this. Staff find out about and value children's home lives, including languages. They embrace children's cultures and help them learn about different festivals, events and celebrations. Children develop excellent self-esteem, tolerance and acceptance.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

The majority of children progress on to school developing at levels above the national average. Children gain exceptional skills in readiness for their eventual move on to school. They are highly enthusiastic learners. Children are curious and inquisitive. They develop strong communication skills. Children listen and focus their attention during group sessions. They competently express their wants, needs, thoughts and ideas. Children learn to play nicely with others. They share, take turns and negotiate with support. Children develop excellent literacy and mathematical skills. They delight in sharing stories with their teachers. They relish writing opportunities and quickly learn alphabet letter sounds. Children enjoy counting beyond 10, identifying shapes and measuring size and height.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY356893
Local authority	Herefordshire
Inspection number	1104623
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	35
Number of children on roll	55
Name of registered person	Holmer Pre-School Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP527064
Date of previous inspection	28 November 2014
Telephone number	07796204133

Holmer Pre-School registered in 2007. The nursery employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, all seven hold appropriate early years qualifications. This includes three who hold an early years foundation degree and one early childhood graduate. The nursery operates from Monday to Friday term-time only and they provide a holiday club based on demand. Sessions are from 9am until 3.15pm. They also operate before- and after-school care. Sessions are available from 8am until 9am and from 3.15pm until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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