

Cowcliffe Preschool

Lightridge Road, Fixby, Huddersfield, HD2 2HB



Inspection date

11 May 2018

Previous inspection date

11 December 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

- Support for children who have special educational needs is excellent. Staff are very good at early identification of children's needs and are quick to put into place the support that is needed. All staff tailor their planning to cater for individual abilities. Very strong links exist between the pre-school and outside agencies.
- Staff know the children well. They talk confidently about where the children are in their development and what they need to do to support their continuing progress. As a result, children make good progress.
- Staff are warm and kind and form good relationships with children. Children are happy and settled and are confident to access all areas of the pre-school.
- Staff foster children's successful approach to their learning. Staff are enthusiastic and their interactions with children are positive. They give children the confidence to build on their existing skills and try new things in a safe, supportive and inclusive environment.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff do not make the most of opportunities to extend and enhance children's progress; for example, during some daily routines and planned activities.
- Staff do not yet fully engage parents of children who speak English as an additional language, to help narrow the identified gaps in their learning

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- raise the quality of teaching even further so that learning opportunities are not missed during daily routines and planned activities
- strengthen strategies to engage all parents in their children's learning and development, particularly those who speak English as an additional language.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities both indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and staff. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of adults in the setting.
- The inspector took the views of parents into account.

Inspector

Louise Williamson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Management and staff are vigilant and are very clear about the signs that might lead them to be concerned about a child's well-being. Robust policies, procedures and training opportunities ensure that staff are fully equipped to keep children safe from harm. Management's self-evaluation is very detailed and ambitious. It shows a clear understanding of where improvements need to be made and things that they do well. Recruitment and vetting procedures are good to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Staff have good access to training to keep skills up to date and improve children's learning outcomes. There are very strong partnerships with other agencies to help promote children's well-being and progress. The deputy manager regularly monitors progress across the pre-school to identify gaps in learning in groups of children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children have access to a broad range of learning experiences. Staff observe children and take into consideration their interests to plan well for what they need to learn next. Staff effectively support children's speech and language development. They ask open-ended questions and repeat words back to children. Children have good exposure to print and opportunities to make marks using a variety of tools on different surfaces. The outdoor area provides children with a stimulating area for exploratory play and to use their senses; for example, a large mud area, painting with larger implements, and sand and water play. This enhances their physical and imaginative skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well and their good behaviour is valued and praised. Children are well supported in becoming independent in their routines and self-help skills. There is a flexible procedure in place for settling children and the key-person system helps children to form good attachments soon after starting. Children are supported in their learning about the wider world beyond their own experiences. For example, they have observed the growth of chicks right from them hatching from the eggs. Children have free access to healthy snacks throughout the session and they use the outside space for exercise and to further develop their social skills. Children learn how to use the equipment safely and they have opportunities to climb and balance.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points and develop the skills they need in readiness for a move on to school. Children learn about what living things need in order to grow. There are many opportunities for children to be creative, make marks and develop their early writing skills through their play and more structured activities. Children learn mathematical language, such as 'more' and 'half', when they plant seeds. All children have good opportunities to investigate their environment and experiment with resources.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY333633
Local authority	Kirklees
Inspection number	1104485
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	30
Number of children on roll	48
Name of registered person	Cowcliffe Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP910075
Date of previous inspection	11 December 2014
Telephone number	01484 424425 and 07436260467

Cowcliffe Preschool registered in 2006. The pre-school employs seven members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, 4 or 6. It opens Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 4pm, during term time only. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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