

Upottery Preschool CIO

Upottery, Honiton, Devon, EX14 9QT



Inspection date	27 June 2018
Previous inspection date	12 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

- The manager and staff constantly seek to make improvements to maintain good-quality outcomes for children. Effective monitoring enables the manager to measure the impact of changes on children's learning. For example, since simplifying how they share children's next steps, they now receive more information from parents about children's achievements at home for staff to use in their assessments.
- All children make good progress, relative to their starting points. Staff observations and assessments of children's progress are precise. The manager's good tracking enables her to quickly identify any gaps in learning, which she and staff address when planning.
- Children are happy and well behaved, with good self-esteem. The effective key-person system helps children to settle in. They quickly develop very good relationships with staff and each other, helping them to feel emotionally secure.
- Support for children who have special educational needs is extremely good. The manager and staff have very strong relationships with other professionals involved with children. They share information very well to ensure consistency when planning for future progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Activities to teach children about technology lack challenge for the older children.
- Although younger children have good practical skills, sometimes, staff intervene to help them without encouraging them to do things for themselves first, for example, at mealtimes.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more challenge for older children as they learn to use technology in different contexts
- be more consistent in encouraging younger children to do things for themselves, to further extend their independence.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children engaged in learning activities, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector had discussions with parents, children, staff and management.
- The inspector reviewed the effectiveness of self-evaluation in prioritising and monitoring improvements.
- The inspector reviewed systems of observation, assessment and planning, and the effectiveness of monitoring children's progress.
- The inspector sampled required documents and records, including safeguarding procedures, and talked to staff about how they implement these.

Inspector

Julie Neal

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management committee supports the manager and staff team very well, encouraging them to make the most of training opportunities to further develop their skills. Staff share knowledge gained through training, and the manager's good monitoring shows where new skills positively affect children's learning. For example, following a course on developing outdoor learning, they have introduced more challenging activities, such as using tree branches and twigs to build dens. These have developed children's safety awareness and their understanding of how to make simple risk assessments. Additionally, children's understanding of teamwork has improved. For example, they listen to each other's ideas to form a plan. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have an extremely thorough understanding of local safeguarding procedures. They are experienced in working with child protection agencies to support vulnerable children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make very good use of opportunities to extend children's learning. They are particularly effective in encouraging them to use their knowledge of mathematics. For example, while making pretend potions, older children talk about making double of the amounts. Staff ask them to explain 'double' to the younger children, which they confidently do, and use containers to demonstrate what they mean. Staff promote children's literacy very well. For example, they engage children's attention most effectively when reading stories by using different voices for the characters in the book. They encourage children to use their good knowledge of letters and how they sound to identify words in the book that start with 'gr', such as, 'green' and 'grumpy'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children make good use of the wide variety of resources, indoors and outdoors, as they express their ideas in imaginary play. For example, they used water trays and construction equipment to create a car wash, and make a sign to show when it is open and closed. Children enjoy being active and they climb, balance, run and jump confidently. They understand why they need to drink plenty of water in hot weather, particularly after exercise, to stay healthy.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good skills that prepare them well for their next stage in learning, including going on to school. Throughout their time at pre-school, they regularly join in activities at the village school. As a result, older children due to start school are familiar with the teachers and the premises, so talk confidently about moving on. Overall, children are independent. For example, when younger children get wet during water play, they change into spare clothes with minimal help from staff.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY484951
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	1071866
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	20
Number of children on roll	29
Name of registered person	Upottery Pre-School CIO
Registered person unique reference number	RP903955
Date of previous inspection	12 December 2014
Telephone number	01404861705

Upottery Pre-school CIO has been running as a pre-school since 1979, however the CIO has only been in existence since 2014. It is run by a voluntary committee and is located in the village of Upottery near Honiton. The pre-school operates from a self-contained building on the Upottery Primary School site. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education to two-, three- and four-year-old children. The group opens Monday to Friday, during school term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 3.30pm Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, until 1pm on Tuesdays and 1pm on Thursdays. There are six members of staff. The manager holds early years teacher status, one member of staff holds an early years degree, two are qualified to Level 3 and two are unqualified. There is disability access.

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