

Widey Court Pre-School

Widey Court (off Trewithy Drive), Crownhill, Plymouth, Devon PL6 5UB



Inspection date	12 December 2018
Previous inspection date	25 May 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
Effectiveness of 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 are very reflective of their practice and work together as a committed team to move the provision forward. Self-evaluation is precise and focuses effectively on areas for development to continually improve outcomes for children.
- Staff make accurate assessments of children's levels of development. They plan interesting activities that support children to successfully achieve the next steps in their learning. Children make good progress from their starting points.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff actively involve parents in their children's development through an effective two-way flow of information. This supports children's progress with routines, such as toilet training, and promotes their confidence well.
- Staff are kind and considerate, and provide good support to children to cooperate with others. For example, children eagerly share play dough with each other and make sure that everyone can join in and enjoy the activity. Children are polite and behave well.
- Staff do not consistently extend activities to provide more challenge for older children, to help them to make even better progress in their learning.
- Occasionally, staff miss opportunities to encourage children to explore and investigate, follow their own ideas and develop their individual creativity.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- adapt and extend activities for older children to provide more challenge and help them to make more progress in their learning
- provide more encouragement to children to explore, investigate and follow their own ideas to develop their individual creativity.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff engaged in activities with children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager and discussed the quality of teaching and learning.
- The inspector looked at a range of documents, including children's records.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and discussed the pre-school's self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke to staff, parents, and children, and took account of their views.

Inspector

Margaret Baird

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager recruits and supervises staff effectively, and provides good support to their professional development. For example, staff recently attended training to improve the way they plan activities that engage children and help them move on in their learning. Children now benefit from interesting activities that focus well on keeping them involved and motivated to learn. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff are vigilant and know the signs that might lead them to be concerned about a child's welfare. They are clear about local safeguarding procedures. The manager monitors children's learning thoroughly to address any gaps in their development or in the curriculum. She uses funding effectively and liaises well with outside agencies when children need extra help. Positive partnerships with local schools help children to become familiar with school life. For example, children visit the school regularly and become familiar with the staff and environment. They continue with their future education with self-assurance.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The experienced staff team has a good understanding of child development and how to help children learn during play. For example, they encourage older children to count the number of children present at circle time, make simple calculations and identify numbers. Younger children count accurately as they use building blocks to make towers and enjoy finding out how many they can balance. Children develop their mathematical skills and vocabulary well during their purposeful and enjoyable play. Staff interact with children positively to promote their speech and language development effectively. For example, they encourage older children to describe their models in detail as they use play dough. Staff play alongside younger children to develop their vocabulary well when they talk about and describe the 'sticky' and 'slimy' texture of the dough.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide a warm and welcoming environment with a good range of inviting resources to choose from. Children settle quickly and become secure in the routines of the day. They enjoy helping themselves to healthy and nutritious food and understand the importance of adopting a healthy lifestyle. Staff sit with children, encourage them to talk about their day and support their social development well. Children benefit from daily opportunities to be energetic and enjoy fresh air. Staff take them on outings to local woodlands where they have opportunities to learn about the natural world.

Outcomes for children are good

Children take part in activities with enthusiasm and gain the skills they need for future learning and starting school. They develop good independence and show pride in their achievements. Children develop good physical skills. Older children use tools, such as scissors with increasing skill and dexterity. Younger children enjoy steering wheeled-toys around, learn to balance and become well coordinated.

Setting details

Unique reference number	117247
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	10084983
Type of provision	Sessional day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	33
Number of children on roll	38
Name of registered person	Widey Court Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP910532
Date of previous inspection	25 May 2018
Telephone number	01752 701187

Widey Court Pre-School registered in 1995. It is located in Crownhill, Plymouth. The pre-school operates Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 3.15pm, term time only. The pre-school provides free funded early education for children aged two, three and four years old. It employs eight members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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