

Upton Methodist Church Pre-School

Dorchester Road, Upton, Poole, Dorset BH16 5NN



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| Inspection date | 6 June 2019 |
| Previous inspection date | 16 October 2015 |

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Good | 2 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|----------|
| | Previous inspection: | Good | 2 |
| 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 her deputy provide clear and purposeful leadership to the staff team. They reflect well on practice continuously and make changes that benefit children's care and learning needs, such as the revised café-style lunchtime.
- Staff and children share warm and close relationships. Staff are good role models to children and children's behaviour is good.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents are extremely complimentary of the staff team. They comment that the staff go above and beyond to meet their expectations. Staff communicate well with parents, to ensure that they meet children's needs effectively.
- The manager and staff have a good understanding of child development. They use their regular observations of children's learning effectively to make accurate assessments and monitor children's progress well. Children make good progress, or better, including those who are learning to speak English as an additional language.
- Occasionally, staff do not organise whole-group activities as effectively as possible, to enable quieter children to share their ideas and keep them interested and engaged.
- At times, staff miss opportunities to encourage children to link sounds to letters, for example, when labelling their pictures or artwork.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider the organisation of whole-group times to ensure all children can share their ideas and remain interested and engaged
- make the most of opportunities for older children to link sounds to letters to support their learning in literacy further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records and planning.
- The inspector and manager observed children in their play and discussed children's progress.
- The inspector spoke to the staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held meetings with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Michelle Heimsoth

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff keep their safeguarding knowledge up to date and have a good understanding of child protection issues. They recognise the signs or symptoms which may be a cause for concern, including wider safeguarding issues, and know the reporting procedure to follow. Staff recruitment and vetting procedures are thorough. The manager monitors staff's ongoing suitability effectively through regular supervision meetings and observations of teaching practice. The manager supports staff very well and encourages them to develop their professional skills and knowledge to further benefit children's learning. For example, staff worked closely with other agencies to increase their knowledge of how to support children's speech and language skills. This helped staff to identify those children who need additional help at the earliest opportunity. They used this knowledge effectively to provide targeted support through enjoyable activities to close gaps in learning and improve language development successfully.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy the company of one another and the staff. Children skilfully use trowels and spades to fill pots with soil and plant flowers. Children confidently talk about the different seeds and flowers and understand what they need to do to help them grow. Children play with small toy animals, sorting them into groups and correctly matching the adult animal to their baby. Staff support children well as they balance carefully on crates, and trim the hedges with scissors to develop good coordination and small physical movements. Children know that they must not run around holding scissors or jump down from the crate with scissors in their hands. Children enjoy looking at books in small groups outside. They handle books well, turning pages carefully and looking at the pictures together.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children benefit from daily fresh air and a range of interesting physical activities outside. For example, children thoroughly enjoyed playing football, passing the ball between them and scoring goals in the net. Staff give children lots of praise and encouragement, which supports their emotional development effectively. Staff teach children about the importance of a healthy lifestyle. For example, children contribute to discussions about healthy food and understand the importance of following thorough hygiene routines.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop a wide range of skills, which prepare them well for their future learning and school. Older children can write and recognise their name. Children count and use numbers well in routines and activities. They take a vote on which song to sing, using words such as 'more' and 'fewer' as they count the number of votes. Children are imaginative and enjoy re-enacting what they know. For example, children care for 'babies', dress, feed them and take them for a walk. Children take turns well, are kind to one another and understand how their actions have an impact on the feelings of others.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | 153445 |
| Local authority | Dorset |
| Inspection number | 10062634 |
| Type of provision | Childcare on non-domestic premises |
| Registers | Early Years Register |
| Day care type | Sessional day care |
| Age range of children | 2 - 4 |
| Total number of places | 30 |
| Number of children on roll | 65 |
| Name of registered person | Upton Methodist Pre-School Committee |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP903140 |
| Date of previous inspection | 16 October 2015 |
| Telephone number | 01202 631915 or 01202 625417 |

Upton Methodist Church Pre-School has been established for approximately 40 years and operates from the Methodist Church Hall in Upton, in Poole, Dorset. The pre-school is open Monday to Friday during term time only, from 8.30am until 3.30pm. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. There are eight members of staff. Six members of staff have a level 3 qualification, one member of staff has a level 2 and one is unqualified.

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