

Norton St Philip Pre School

Church Street, Norton St. Philip, BATH BA2 7LU



Inspection date	10 July 2019
Previous inspection date	12 November 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 staff use self-evaluation effectively to reflect and identify areas for improvement. For example, they have developed the outside area to provide more opportunities for children to use their imagination and get involved in planting and growing fruit and vegetables.
- Partnerships with parents, other early years providers and schools are very good. The manager and staff work closely with parents to share information about their child's care and learning, to help them meet children's individual needs effectively. They form good links with Reception class teachers, which supports children's move to school successfully.
- Children arrive happy and quickly settle to activities. They share warm and close relationships with staff, who support their emotional development well.
- The manager and staff provide a wide range of interesting activities and experiences which children enjoy. Children make good progress.
- At times, staff miss opportunities to extend children's mathematical understanding, particularly of size and measure.
- Occasionally, staff do not differentiate adult-led activities as effectively as possible, to keep younger children engaged consistently.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of opportunities that arise for children to develop their knowledge and use mathematical language even more
- develop adult-led activities further to engage younger children effectively and meet their individual needs more consistently.

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 policies.
- The inspector and manager completed a joint observation.
- 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 their views into account.

Inspector

Michelle Heimsoth

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff have a good knowledge of child protection issues and know what to do if they have a concern about a child's welfare. They implement risk assessments effectively, to help keep children safe. The manager works alongside the committee to ensure vetting procedures for staff and the committee are thorough. There are effective systems for recruitment and induction. Staff benefit from regular opportunities to enhance their professional development. For example, they have attended training which has extended their understanding of how to support children's early writing skills. The manager holds regular meetings with staff to discuss their practice and supports them well to develop their skills by observing their teaching and working alongside them.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children well and monitor their progress effectively. This helps staff to provide focused activities to swiftly address any identified gaps in children's learning. Children use their imaginations well indoors and outdoors. They bath the dolls, pretend to book a holiday at the travel agent and board an aeroplane at the airport. Staff support young children's language development well. They repeat words and phrases and name animals, as children correctly identify the noise the animal makes. Staff support older children well as they sound out the letters when children write their names. Young children learn through messy play activities. They explore paint and textures as they paint pictures and patterns with brushes and their hands.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour is good. They interact well with the staff and one another. Children are well mannered and learn to respect each other's feelings. For example, they happily look after those who are younger or have recently joined the pre-school, understanding that they may feel a little anxious. Staff give the children lots of praise and encouragement for doing things well, which boosts their confidence and self-esteem effectively. Staff encourage children's understanding of healthy lifestyles and provide them with healthy snacks. Children benefit from fresh air and daily physical exercise, which further supports their well-being.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well motivated and confident learners. They develop many skills which prepare them well for the next stage in their learning and moving on to school. They develop good social skills, take turns and share resources well. Older children draw pictures of themselves and their families, with clear detail of arms, legs and facial features. They listen to stories well, confidently joining in with familiar phrases and finishing off sentences correctly. Children show they listen and follow instructions successfully, as they stop what they are doing to tidy away toys.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY266916
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	10065842
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	14
Number of children on roll	26
Name of registered person	Norton St Phillip Pre School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP905945
Date of previous inspection	12 November 2015
Telephone number	01373 834 628

Norton St Philip Pre School registered in 2003. It operates from within Norton St Philip First School in Bath. The setting operates Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 8.45am to 3.30pm. There are five staff who work with the children, including the manager, who is qualified to level 6. The other staff are qualified to level 2 and 3. The setting is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

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