

Inspection of Holgate Preschool

Holgate Methodist Church, Acomb Road, York, North Yorkshire YO24 4AE

Inspection date:

28 November 2019

Overall effectiveness

Good

The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

Personal development

Good

Leadership and management

Good

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children settle quickly from the start of the day. They are very happy and fully engaged during their time at the pre-school. Their curiosity and imagination are stimulated by the well-planned and organised learning environment indoors and out. They enjoy the adult-led group activities, such as story times, yoga and 'Rugbytots' sessions. Staff have high expectations for children, overall. However, very occasionally, staff do not fully challenge all children. Children show good levels of confidence and independence as they lead their own play. Staff form strong bonds with children and consistently speak to them in a warm, friendly and gentle manner.

Children show that they feel safe and secure during their time at the pre-school. Staff establish close relationships with parents, which contributes to children's sense of well-being and belonging. Children behave well. Staff provide sensitive support for younger children who are learning to manage their own behaviour. The experienced manager is thorough and attentive in all aspects of her role. There are rigorous procedures to evaluate the quality of the provision and plan future developments. The manager and her close staff team have made good improvements since the previous inspection.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Staff are kind and gentle role models to children. They warmly praise children and value their ideas and achievements. Staff skilfully reinforce children's good behaviour through purposeful praise. They distract children who may otherwise demonstrate unwanted behaviour. Staff help children to explore their emotions and learn to be tolerant of others.
- Staff strongly support children's speech and language development. Children are introduced to many songs and rhymes throughout their time at the pre-school. They quickly become familiar with them and eagerly join in. Parents comment on how many songs their children know. Children access a wide variety of books and stories, which they enjoy sharing with one another. Staff read stories in an animated and engaging fashion. They ask children questions that help them to focus their attention and recall the sequence of the story.
- Parents strongly recommend the pre-school. They value staff's professional knowledge and warm, friendly nature. Staff use the detailed information parents provide about children's interests, skills and knowledge to plan precisely for their future learning. Parents appreciate the frequent, useful information on their children's progress and good guidance to support children's learning at home.
- Staff help children to acquire the skills they need for their future learning, including making a successful start to school life. For example, children learn to listen well to others and follow sometimes complex instructions. They remember

different yoga movements from the previous week. Children show increasing independence and confidence in putting on waterproof overalls and boots before venturing outside to play in the rain. However, on a few occasions, staff do not challenge children strongly enough to help them achieve their full potential during their activities.

- Staff use additional funding children receive well to address any gaps in their learning. For example, they support further training for staff or enrich children's experiences through engaging visitors, such as the 'pet zoo'. Staff work closely with other educational and care professionals to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- Children are given many opportunities to extend their physical skills. They develop their hand control while they stir and mix their 'magic potions' with liquids of different colours and textures. Children jump high in the air when they pretend to be birds waking up the worms in the ground. They make very good use of the large outdoor space to pedal tricycles and ride other play vehicles.
- The manager provides strong leadership to the staff. She is well supported by her senior staff. Staff are given time to access training opportunities and share their learning. This helps staff to contribute effectively to children's learning in, for instance, speech and language, and mathematics. Staff work closely with other settings children attend, including the schools they move on to. They share information well to promote consistency in children's learning experiences.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff are well trained in child protection procedures. They know how to identify signs that children may be at risk of abuse or neglect. Staff are very clear who to report their concerns to and how to make sure these are suitably managed. There are clear procedures for handling an allegation against a member of staff. The manager and staff are vigilant. They ensure children always play in a safe and secure environment inside and outdoors.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen staff's planning and interaction with children to ensure they consistently challenge all children and build on their learning highly effectively.

Setting details

Unique reference number	321496
Local authority	York
Inspection number	10092089
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	2 to 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	Holgate Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP903925
Telephone number	07957101801
Date of previous inspection	8 January 2019

Information about this early years setting

Holgate Preschool registered in 1992. The pre-school employs six members of childcare staff, all of whom hold early years qualifications at level 3 or higher, including one who has qualified teacher status. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 9am until 2pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Andrew Clark

Inspection activities

- The manager showed the inspector around the nursery. She explained to the inspector how they provide a broad curriculum for children and plan for their learning.
- The inspector completed two joint observations with the manager. They evaluated the quality of teaching and learning.
- The inspector spoke to children and staff.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and with the chair of the committee. He viewed relevant documentation, including staff's qualifications and evidence of the suitability of adults working with children.
- Parents spoke to the inspector and shared their views of the nursery.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2019