

Inspection of Sennen and Land's End Pre-school

Blue Haven, Atlantic Crescent, Sennen, Penzance TR19 7AS

Inspection date: 2 March 2022

Overall effectiveness **Good**

The quality of education **Good**

Behaviour and attitudes **Good**

Personal development **Good**

Leadership and management **Good**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children and parents are greeted warmly by the friendly staff. They make independent choices on the direction of their play from a selection of age-appropriate toys and resources. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) receive good support from staff. Staff work closely with other professionals and children's parents to ensure that children with SEND have appropriate support for their needs. Children learn through an effective balance of adult-led activities and child-initiated play opportunities.

Children become deeply engaged in their play and remain at their chosen activity for long periods of time. Staff use children's interests to plan activities. For example, children enjoy the new experience of making pancakes. They mix flour, pour milk and crack open eggs. Children add fruit and honey excitedly to their freshly cooked pancake. They become engrossed in rolling their pancake and cutting it into pieces.

Staff engaged with families to support children's continued progress during the COVID-19 national lockdowns. They sent out learning packs and kept in contact through telephone calls and emails. When children returned, staff placed a strong emphasis on children's social interactions, which is proving successful. The well-established key-person system promotes children's emotional well-being and helps them to form secure attachments.

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

- The manager and staff work hard to review and improve the curriculum. They plan a board curriculum to build on what children know and can already do. Staff listen to children's interests and plan activities that follow these interests to enable children to find out more. For instance, children show an interest in finding out about different breeds of birds. Children use binoculars to look closely at birds landing in the garden. They refer to a poster to see if they can spot any of the birds. This broadens the opportunities for children to learn about the birds.
- Staff model language well and ask children questions. However, at times, their enthusiasm means that they do not allow children enough thinking time to form answers to their questions. This means that they do not take advantage of opportunities to further extend children's language skills.
- The garden is well used. All children have the opportunity to play outside each day in the fresh air. There is a wide range of resources, which meet children's needs well. Older children climb and swing, and younger children dig in sand and manoeuvre wheeled vehicles around the garden.
- Staff use positive praise and encourage children to have a go. They are good

role models and give children gentle explanations of how they expect them to behave. Children behave well and enjoy the company of others. They play cooperatively and learn to share and take turns. This helps to prepare children well for their next stages of learning and eventual move on to school.

- Children show high levels of independence during activities. They practise holding pencils and some are beginning to form letters. Children show determination and a can-do attitude. Older children enjoy taking on additional responsibilities, such as clearing the table for lunch. This helps to nurture their growing independence. Younger children are supported in developing their independence skills. For example, staff encourage them to put on their coats for outdoor play.
- The manager and deputy review the setting effectively to make improvements. They monitor staff's performance to help identify their strengths and where improvements can be made. Staff attend regular supervision meetings to review their practice. All staff receive good coaching, support and training from leaders and outside sources.
- Parents are positive about the pre-school and the staff. They comment that the setting 'feels like an extension of home' and that staff are 'professional and friendly'. However, not all parents know what they can do to support their child's learning at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff have a clear understanding of their individual responsibility to keep children safe. They understand what would constitute a safeguarding concern. All staff have completed safeguarding training and understand their safeguarding responsibilities. Staff regularly risk assess the environment, checking for potential hazards. The premises are secure, with locks on all entrances. Children play and learn in a safe and secure space. Staff deploy themselves well and supervise children with vigilance. They are trained in paediatric first aid and know the correct procedures in response to accidents.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- support staff further to develop their teaching to ensure they give children enough time to think and respond to any questions they ask in order to extend children's language skills
- extend the partnerships with parents further to help all parents understand how to support their child's individual learning at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY481137
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	10126127
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	14
Number of children on roll	10
Name of registered person	Sennen and Lands End Preschool Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP520003
Telephone number	07971378832
Date of previous inspection	6 July 2016

Information about this early years setting

Sennen and Land's End Pre-school re-registered in new premises in 2014. It is run by a committee of volunteers. The pre-school operates from a community building in Sennen near Land's End, Cornwall. It operates Monday to Thursday from 8.30am to 3pm during term time only. It receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school employs five staff, of whom all hold appropriate childcare qualifications to at least level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Rachel Cornish

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about the curriculum and what they intend for the children to learn.
- The inspector observed the quality of education provided indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- During a joint observation, the manager and the inspector evaluated the quality of education together.
- Parents and staff provided their views to the inspector about the setting.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and the deputy. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.

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.

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