

Cranborne Preschool

Cecil Memorial Hall, Water Street, Cranborne, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 5QB



Inspection date

23 September 2016

Previous inspection date

18 April 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the 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 experienced manager has a strong commitment to making continuous improvement. She implements comprehensive staff supervision and training programmes to ensure the quality of teaching and learning is consistently good.
- Staff are knowledgeable about the children's individual interests and needs. Children form secure emotional attachments with staff, which help them to feel confident.
- Staff provide a welcoming, inviting environment, which is organised well to provide a wide range of learning opportunities to help all children make good progress.
- Teaching is effective in helping children to develop into confident communicators. Staff use a variety of ways for children to hear and use language. Children talk confidently in small and large groups and staff regularly ask for their ideas and contributions.
- Staff are good role models for children's behaviour and use effective strategies to help them to behave well and understand expectations.
- Effective partnerships with external agencies and services mean that there is a united approach to meeting individual children's needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, staff do not take every opportunity to challenge and extend children's thinking skills to the highest levels.
- Partnerships with parents are good, but staff are not always successful in providing more detailed information to parents, to help them extend children's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make use of all opportunities to challenge children and encourage them to think, solve problems and come up with their own ideas
- strengthen the two-way exchange of information with parents so they can support their children's learning further at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching both indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector talked to children, staff and the manager at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector and the manager carried out a joint observation.
- The inspector held a leadership and management meeting and sampled planning documentation, and a range of other records including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Jacqueline Good

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All staff have a thorough and in-depth knowledge of the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child. The manager supports staff well to develop their practice. They regularly complete training and effectively share what they learn to benefit children. Recent training has helped staff review their provision and use their findings to implement action plans to guide the continuing development of the pre-school and improve the outcomes for children. Accurate monitoring of children's progress identifies children who need additional support and staff use additional funding productively to help narrow the gaps for all children. For example, funding paid for more specialist support for children with low self-esteem, to help build their confidence and self-belief. Staff have built close links between home and the school to provide continuity of care. The manager recognises that they could further enhance ways to support parents to continue their children's learning at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are knowledgeable about how young children learn and successfully plan experiences to excite and interest them. They use a range of teaching techniques and children are well motivated and keen to learn. Staff support children's communication skills and enjoyment of books. For example, they tell animated stories using props and gestures to bring stories alive. Staff support children to explore and investigate the outside area. Children enthusiastically explored the soil and worms, while staff provided magnifying glasses to extend their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff know and meet the children's care needs, dietary requirements and medical needs very well. They share information among the staff team effectively to ensure children's care and well-being are given good priority. Children learn about healthy lifestyles. For example, they enjoy healthy snacks and have regular time outside in all weathers. Staff teach them about good hygiene to minimise the spread of germs. Children learn a range of social skills, such as listening, taking turns and respecting others. Friendships flourish as children share experiences together. They learn about respect and tolerance as they explore other cultures and customs together.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good independence, for example, by learning how to dress themselves for outside play, helping to prepare snacks and wash up dishes. They have many opportunities to count and use mathematical language during their play. Children's early writing skills are developing well. They are engaged, enjoy their learning and are well prepared for their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	144281
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	1061487
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	21
Name of registered person	Cranborne Preschool Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP904857
Date of previous inspection	18 April 2013
Telephone number	07796 124721

Cranborne Preschool registered in 1992. It operates from a community building in Cranborne, Dorset. The pre-school is open each weekday during term time, except Wednesdays, from 8.50am until 12.50pm. On Tuesdays and Fridays, there is an afternoon session from 12.50pm to 2.50pm. The pre-school employs six members of staff, of whom three hold a relevant qualification at level 2, two at level 3 and one at level 6. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years.

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