

Crawshay Pre-School

Caversham Methodist Church, Gosbrook Road, Caversham, Reading, Berkshire, RG4 8EB



Inspection date	25 February 2015
Previous inspection date	15 February 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff are well trained and skilled in supporting children's language. They use a variety of techniques, such as effective questioning, modelling good language and sign language. This supports all children, including those with additional needs, to make good progress.
- The pre-school has effective partnerships with parents, which supports children's learning at home.
- Safeguarding, safety and security are given a high priority by the staff. Robust policies and procedures support all areas of the provision. This contributes to protecting children's welfare.
- Staff plan a range of good activities that reflect children's interests and engage them in their learning.
- The manager and the staff engage in reflective practices that help them evaluate the quality of their teaching. They also reflect well on the strengths and areas of development of the pre-school. This ensures they are constantly improving.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There is a large variety of toys and resources for children to play with. However, these are mostly constructed of man-made materials. This limits children's sensory experiences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the range of natural resources available indoors for children to explore, in order to develop their sensory experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at free play and in group times and staff interactions with them.
- The inspector sampled documents including policies, registers and records of children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took into account their views.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector and manager conducted a joint observation.

Inspector

Natasha Crellin

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Staff know the children well and take account of their interests when planning what they need to learn. Children enthusiastically take part in the large variety of activities and experiences, including the secret garden and mud kitchen. Children develop their creativity as they make models of space ships, and create art from a large variety of resources, which are freely available. There is an abundance of man-made resources indoors, however, there are limited resources made from natural materials for children to explore and extend their sensory experiences with. Children enjoy nutritious and healthy snacks. Staff remind children to use good table manners, which supports their social skills. Staff carefully observe and assess children as they play. Planned activities take into account children's next stages of learning and cover all seven areas of learning. Assessments are shared with parents, in order for them to be able to support learning at home.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Children have close and trusting relationships with the staff and this helps them feel secure. Staff create a welcoming and friendly environment. This supports the children to settle quickly when they arrive at the pre-school. Children are active and confident learners. The staff work closely with a large range of other professionals, such as health visitors and speech therapists, to ensure children receive targeted support. Staff effectively promote children's safety. All staff are safeguarding trained and know the procedures to follow if they have concerns for the welfare of a child. Staff regularly risk assess the pre-school and ensure the areas used with children are free from hazards. The pre-school has close relationships with the local schools. Teachers visit the pre-school allowing children to form relationships with school staff before they move up.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The manager has a good understanding of how to promote learning in the pre-school. She ensures children have access to stimulating and challenging learning. Staff regularly observe each other and this helps them to reflect on and improve their teaching skills. The quality of teaching is good. There are effective arrangements in place to monitor staff performance. Staff have regular meetings and attend training to ensure their practice is improving. Training to develop children's language, from a qualified speech and language therapist, has had a marked impact on the quality of language support offered by all staff.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY272144
Local authority	Reading
Inspection number	847166
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	36
Name of provider	Crawshay Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	15 February 2011
Telephone number	0118 9484 333

Crawshay Pre-School has been registered since 1970. It is situated in the Methodist Church Hall in Caversham, Reading, Berkshire. The pre-school is open every weekday, term time only. It operates on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9.15am to 2.45 pm, on Tuesday from 12.15pm to 2.45pm, and on Friday from 9.15am to 1.15pm. The provision is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four. The pre-school employs seven staff, all of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications. Two staff members hold higher level qualifications in Early Years Professional Status and Early Years Teacher Status.

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