

West Buckland Pre-School

The Village Hall, Silver Street, West Buckland, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 9NA



Inspection date	18 January 2016
Previous inspection date	30 January 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- Staff are caring and friendly, and children respond positively to their gentle humour. This helps children feel secure and effectively promotes their emotional well-being.
- Staff effectively promote children's physical well-being. Children enjoy lots of exciting outside learning experiences and they benefit from being in the fresh air.
- Children enjoy their play. They become absorbed in activities which motivate and interest them and support their future learning skills. This promotes good outcomes.
- Staff work effectively together as a team and frequently reflect on their practice. They evaluate the effectiveness of planned activities and continue to seek ways of developing play experiences and making ongoing improvements.
- Children become confident communicators. Staff actively reinforce children's comments and sensitively question their ideas, extending their thinking and discussion.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff have a good understanding of children's development; however, they do not always use assessment systems consistently to monitor any gaps in their learning more precisely.
- Staff do not always seek detailed information from parents on entry about their children's specific developmental abilities to fully support planning from the start.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen systems for monitoring children's progress to consistently identify accurate assessments of their achievements and fully support their ongoing learning
- strengthen systems for gathering information from parents on entry about their child's existing abilities and use this to fully support initial planning and promote children's learning further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's interactions during play indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector viewed documentation, such as operational policies, procedures and records, including those relating to staff suitability.
- The inspector took into account the written and spoken views of parents.
- The inspector offered the opportunity of a joint observation.
- The inspector discussed the pre-school's self-evaluation process.

Inspector
Mary Daniel

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Management and staff understand their responsibility in protecting children's welfare. They continue to complete related training and this has updated their awareness of changes in safeguarding legislation. Management implements clear recruitment and employment procedures. For example, staff are effectively supported in their roles when they start and through regular meetings to promote their ongoing professional development. Children benefit from the positive relationships staff form with their parents. Written and spoken comments from parents show they feel that staff are very caring and supportive and that their children love going to pre-school. Staff work effectively with other providers and agencies children attend to support their well-being.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a good range of motivating play experiences that support children's early creativity and imagination. For example, children become absorbed cutting and sticking boxes and tubes together to make their models. They change their dolls' nappies and make adults a pretend cup of tea, some fruit and a pizza slice. Children had great fun flying kites on a village walk. They watched in wonder as the colourful streamers they held flew around in the breeze. Staff promote children's language and literacy skills effectively. For instance, children enthusiastically join in with the repeated refrains of a favourite story. They start to recognise the sounds of familiar letters, such as those in their names. Children enjoy going on the bus to the library to choose more story books.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children gain a good understanding of keeping themselves and others safe. For example, they know they need to wear high-visibility vests on outings. They recognise when a chair is broken and show this to a member of staff. Children develop good self-care skills. They go to wash their hands before eating and quickly find their coats and boots to put on for an outing. Children develop positive attitudes to exercise. They enjoy their walks across local fields and confidently clamber through a stile. They have great fun slipping and sliding in the mud and then run freely across the grass. Staff are calm and consistent in their approach and keep clear routines to help children feel safe. They actively encourage children to share and respect the needs of others, and children play happily together.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy the stimulating activities and make good progress. They develop a positive attitude to learning, which actively helps to prepare them for their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	143071
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1005812
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	17
Name of provider	West Buckland Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	30 January 2015
Telephone number	07779459386

West Buckland Pre-School registered in 1982. This parent committee run pre-school is situated in West Buckland, Somerset. The pre-school is open on Mondays and Fridays from 9am to 2.45pm and on Tuesdays from 9am to 1.30pm, term time only. They also hold a rising fives session at the local school on Tuesdays from 1.30pm to 3pm. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school employs three members of staff. Of these, one holds a qualification at level 4 and one holds a qualification at level 3.

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