

Chewton Common Playgroup

Highcliffe St Mark Primary School, Greenways, Highcliffe, Christchurch, Dorset,
BH23 5AZ



Inspection date	11 February 2016
Previous inspection date	12 November 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff work superbly with their key children to provide excellent support, which results in extremely secure attachments between them and the children. Children show very strong emotional security that reflects in their high motivation to learn.
- The manager uses self-evaluation extremely well to identify and maintain exceptionally high quality improvements. She values parents' and children's input greatly and very successfully includes them in the monitoring process. This greatly benefits children's experiences.
- Partnerships with parents are remarkably strong. Staff work exceptionally well to include them in their children's learning. This very successful collaboration helps children to gain excellent confidence and skills in preparation for future learning.
- Staff promote children's individual learning needs exceptionally well. They use highly effective teaching and children's existing knowledge to extend learning even further. Children make exceptionally rapid progress in all areas of learning, based on their starting points.
- The manager supports staff's excellent understanding of their responsibility to protect children very well. Staff minimise risks very effectively so that children play in safety. Safeguarding training for all staff supports their excellent understanding of how to report any concerns they have for children's welfare.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to extend the evaluation of the staff's performance to develop ways for them to more effectively share their excellent practice and ideas to promote the continued very high quality teaching.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children during play inside and outside.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled a wide range of paperwork including policies and procedures, risk assessments, children's learning files, the self-evaluation documents, staff recruitment and suitability documents.
- The inspector discussed the provision with the staff, the manager, parents and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Shirelle Norris

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager works very successfully with staff and they have a remarkably clear vision of how to help each child succeed. Staff keep highly accurate records of children's development. Each key person monitors children's progress very closely to identify next steps for learning. The staff team provides exceptionally focused activities that help children fulfil their potential. Staff make exceptional use of training to improve their skills. This helps them to support all children, including those with specific additional needs, to make exceptional progress. Staff engage children very well to support and respect each other's differences and similarities. Staff receive thorough guidance and support from the manager, although there are fewer opportunities for them to share their excellent practice and ideas to build on the team's very high teaching standards. Safeguarding is effective. There are excellent policies and procedures to underpin staff's very secure knowledge of keeping children safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff are highly responsive to children's individual learning needs and plan activities with precision. Staff use every opportunity to extend and challenge children's knowledge and understanding. For example, they involve children in organising activities, which helps to motivate them to participate and to be active learners. Staff include mathematical language and ideas very well, helping children to understand the meaning and use of number in everyday life. Children experience incredible learning opportunities outdoors. For example, they used the outdoor gym equipment very competently, challenging their balancing skills on the exercise bike and climbing on equipment. Children have an excellent understanding of the potential risks and need for safety, testing their skills to think critically to manoeuvre safely and creatively.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children form very trusting and strong relationships with staff. They are extremely confident and independent. Staff teach children effectively how to keep safe with very clear guidance and limitless opportunities to learn in a highly challenging environment. Children develop excellent self-esteem and flourish under the praise and encouragement from staff. They eagerly explore and engage in highly stimulating activities. Children's behaviour is exemplary. They show an extremely kind and caring attitude to each other, work well together and take turns.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children have exceptional social skills, showing immense respect for others. Their superb thinking and listening skills help them enormously to share their ideas and take safe risks in their challenging play. Children are exceptionally well prepared for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY313787
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	827218
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 - 5
Total number of places	27
Number of children on roll	95
Name of provider	Helen Dow
Date of previous inspection	12 November 2010
Telephone number	07814 700414

Chewton Common Playgroup registered in 2005. It operates from a purpose-built building next to Highcliffe St Mark Primary School, in Christchurch. The playgroup is open each weekday from 8.45am to 11.45am and from 12 noon to 3pm during term time only. Nine staff work directly with the children; one member of staff has an early years qualification at level 4, six staff have qualifications at level 3 and two members of staff are unqualified. The playgroup is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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