

St Erth Childcare Centre

School Lane, St. Erth, Hayle, Cornwall, TR27 6HN



Inspection date 23 February 2016
Previous inspection date 19 March 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 have warm, caring relationships with the children, who are happy and behave well. Consistent behaviour management by the staff makes sure that all the children feel safe and secure.
- Staff work effectively with parents to meet the needs of children, especially those with additional needs.
- The clear assessment and reviewing of children's progress enable the manager to monitor the quality of the teaching and the educational programme well.
- Staff have a good understanding of children's next steps and their interests, and provide stimulating learning experiences so that all children make good progress from their starting points.
- Close links with the adjacent school support staff well to prepare children in their future move to school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Systems to establish children's starting points are not always prompt or effective to ensure that staff have detailed information about children's home experiences and prior learning to influence initial planning for their learning needs.
- Staff do not always organise popular activities effectively, meaning that some children lose interest while they wait for a turn and do not fully engage in and benefit from the learning opportunities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gain more information from parents about their children's prior learning and starting points when they first start
- review the organisation of activities to ensure all children are able to take part and benefit from the learning opportunities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed activities in the playroom and the outdoor play area.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and staff.
- The inspector checked documents relating to the suitability and qualifications of staff and sampled documentation regarding planning and children's progress.

Inspector

Lynne Bowden

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager uses evaluation well and makes changes to practice, in response to feedback from others, that benefit children's experiences. She and her staff have worked well to drive improvements since the last inspection. The manager closely monitors the quality of assessment, planning and teaching. She ensures staff deliver challenging experiences to all children to support their good progress. The manager promotes staff development well, encouraging staff to reflect on practice and implement their learning from training. This results in improvements to the delivery of children's literacy and mathematics. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a secure knowledge of child protection matters and procedures to follow to protect children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff skilfully support all children, including those who have additional needs, to reach their next steps and make good progress. Staff participate well in imaginative play, asking questions which encourage children to give full and detailed responses. Staff introduce positional language when children are building structures. They highlight the benefits of cooperative play, encouraging children to design and build things together. Imaginative presentation of resources encourages children's early writing skills. For example, staff attach pens to toy cars so that children can record their travel on paper. Staff invite parents to share their children's achievements from home to help them meet children's changing needs. Effective liaison with other agencies leads to additional interventions for children who need them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and confident, and are familiar with the environment and routines. Given their ages and stages of development, children behave well. Staff are effective role models, working together calmly and with respect. Staff teach and reinforce good hygiene practices well. Older children confidently follow these without prompting. Staff teach children about the safe use of medicines during role play. Children enjoy preparing and eating healthy and sociable meals. Children's health benefits from their daily access to outdoor energetic play. Staff encourage children to use sign language to extend their communication skills. Raising awareness and respect for differences and diversity, and making all children feel included and valued, are fundamental to the staff's practice.

Outcomes for children are good

Children's social, literacy and mathematical skills are developing well. They learn to take care of their own needs and play cooperatively. Older children communicate well, and listen to and follow instructions from staff. They recognise their names and some letters. These skills prepare children well for future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY334569
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	1009961
Type of provision	Full-time 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	20
Number of children on roll	19
Name of provider	Pre-School Learning Alliance
Date of previous inspection	19 March 2015
Telephone number	01736 755690

St Erth Childcare Centre registered in 2006 and operates from premises in the village of St Erth, near Hayle, in Cornwall. It is open from 9am until 3pm on Monday to Thursday and from 9am until 12 noon on Friday, term time only. The provision is in receipt of early education funding for children aged two, three and four years. There are five members of childcare staff. The manager is qualified to degree level and holds Early Years Teacher Status. The deputy is qualified to level 5, two assistants hold qualifications at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 2.

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