

# Barn-a-b's Pre-School

Our Lady's Catholic Primary School, Chanters Hill, Barnstaple, Devon, EX32 8DN



<b>Inspection date</b>	24 May 2016
Previous inspection date	29 June 2015

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	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 passionate about their work and give high priority to children's learning. They have high expectations of children and include good levels of challenge during activities. Children make consistently good progress in their learning and development.
- Children have a good sense of belonging in their surroundings. Staff actively encourage them to make their own choices and decisions, which contributes to children feeling valued and respected.
- Staff ensure that parents are kept well informed about their children's learning and development. Parents receive verbal feedback, attend regular meetings to discuss their children's achievements and can add their own observations to children's records.
- The manager has a strong drive for continuous improvement. Self-evaluation is effective in identifying priorities for improvement.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff do not use clear instructions when leading activities and children are unsure of what they need to do.
- The systems for monitoring children's overall development do not consistently provide a comprehensive picture of where there may be gaps in some children's learning, to enable them to make even faster rates of progress.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with clear instructions during activities to maximise all opportunities to extend their learning
- build on systems to monitor children's development to identify any gaps in their learning more accurately, ensuring a consistent approach throughout the pre-school.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children inside and outside.
- The inspector spoke with staff and the manager at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies, children's records and the self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their views on the day of inspection.
- The inspector carried out two joint observations with the manager.

### Inspector

Katherine Lamb

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager ensures that staff keep up to date with safeguarding procedures, and that they fully understand their responsibility to protect children. Staff have many opportunities to discuss their performance during supervision sessions, and they regularly attend training to enhance their skills. For example, staff are implementing new speech and language sessions to help support children and their parents. Monitoring is developing to look at the progress that children make so that any gaps in learning close quickly. The manager and committee carry out regular reviews of each other's practice, to monitor the quality of teaching and learning. Parents comment very positively on the progress that their children make and the friendly, welcoming attitude of staff.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff work with the parents when their children first start, to find out about each child's interests and stage of development. Staff know children well and have a good understanding of how children learn and the ways to support their development. Staff use effective observations of children's learning and ensure that planned activities enable children to enjoy a broad and balanced range of experiences that supports all aspects of their learning. Staff place a strong focus on encouraging children's early mathematical skills through practical experiences. For example, children count and compare shape and size as they play with play dough. Children confidently write their names and develop thinking skills as they play memory games.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff use a calm and consistent approach to managing children's behaviour. Staff continually provide children with praise and encouragement, which helps them to feel valued and respected. Children's emotional well-being is successfully supported, as staff create a friendly, welcoming and stimulating environment. Children develop physical skills well and learn to assess risks, such as using equipment in the garden. The key-person system is effective and all staff know children's individual needs. Children form positive relationships with staff and this contributes to children being happy, settled and content.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children are encouraged by staff to develop a 'can do' attitude. They develop independence well because the staff use meaningful praise to encourage them to do things for themselves. Children know how to share, take turns and play fairly. All children make good progress in their learning and development. Staff prepare children well for their eventual move to school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY411786
<b>Local authority</b>	Devon
<b>Inspection number</b>	1020987
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 11
<b>Total number of places</b>	23
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	44
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Barn A B's Christian Pre School Committee
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP517774
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	29 June 2015
<b>Telephone number</b>	01271325060

Barn-a-b's Christian Pre-School re-registered in 2010 when it moved premises. It operates from Our Lady's Catholic Primary School in Barnstaple, North Devon. A designated classroom is the base for the pre-school, next to the Reception class. Children can use the two classrooms and the shared outside play area. The pre-school is led and managed by a qualified teacher and a volunteer parent committee. They employ seven members of staff with level 3 qualifications, a level 2 apprentice, a teaching assistant and three administrative staff. The setting is open between 7.45am and 5.15pm on weekdays, term time only.

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