

Mosterton Pre-school

Village Hall, Mosterton, Beaminster, Dorset, DT8 3HG



Inspection date	8 November 2016
Previous inspection date	30 April 2013

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

- The management team and staff are committed to improving provision. They evaluate their practice well and make ongoing improvements. For example, they continually review the layout of play areas and make these welcoming for children.
- Children behave very well and develop positive levels of self-esteem. Staff keep clear, consistent boundaries and continually praise children for their achievements.
- Staff are very caring and sensitive to children's needs and respect them as individuals. They successfully help them settle in easily and feel emotionally secure. Children interact positively and make strong friendships.
- Children enjoy their play. Staff teach and provide an exciting range of activities that engages children's interest. Children are motivated to participate and they make good progress.
- Staff support children's good health and physical well-being effectively. They provide an exciting variety of activities and children enjoy using up their energy, while having fun.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Managers and staff do not make effective enough use of assessment information to help them fully evaluate how well different groups of children learn.
- Staff do not gather enough relevant information from parents about their child's existing abilities on entry to help them plan for their initial learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen systems of monitoring children's achievements to help identify how well different groups of children make progress
- gather better levels of information from parents about their children's starting points to help support the initial planning of activities when they start.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed interactions between children and staff indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector viewed a sample of documentation such as operational policies, procedures and required records including those for suitability.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector talked to parents and took their views into account.
- The inspector had discussions with management, staff and children.

Inspector

Mary Daniel

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff have a good awareness of their responsibilities to keep children safe from harm and the procedures to follow if they have any concern about a child's welfare. The management team clearly understands suitable recruitment and employment procedures. It continually assesses the suitability of staff and supports their professional development. For example, recent training has helped staff develop further the standards of health and hygiene to protect children's good health. Positive links are formed with parents and other providers that children attend. Staff keep them regularly updated on children's progress and of any changes, events and significant activities, supporting consistency for children's care.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children's individual ways of learning effectively. They question children's ideas and plan carefully taking into account their interests. Staff actively encourage children's creativity and understanding of the natural world. For example, children explore pumpkins, leaves and conkers and decide they want to make bug houses and do so with boxes, ribbons, glue and tape. Staff encourage children's imagination very well. For example, younger children eagerly use the wooden saws, screwdrivers and hammers to mend their home corner. Older children make an exciting pretend pirate ship using crates and a parachute for a flag. Children explore colour and texture with interest. For example, they eagerly mix dried pasta in the outdoor kitchen and tell staff they are making lemonade.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and settled at this friendly pre-school. Staff value and welcome each child and help them feel safe in their care. Staff actively support children's physical mobility. For example, children like to make obstacle courses and they crawl through tunnels, balance on low beams or jump high landing on both feet. Staff encourage children to develop a good sense of keeping themselves safe. For example, children say, 'We need to walk out of pre-school very nicely,' when their parents arrive to collect them.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain the necessary skills to help them prepare for school. They develop good levels of communication and are keen to express their ideas. They share and take turns well and learn to be kind to others. Children concentrate well on activities. For example, younger children become absorbed pushing their toy cars and trucks through sand. Older children develop their early mathematical skills well. For example, they confidently count the candles they use to decorate a dough-made birthday cake. They begin to understand numbers, quantity and recognise meaningful numbers, such as proudly saying, 'I'm four!'

Setting details

Unique reference number	139351
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	1061434
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 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	30
Name of registered person	Mosterton Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP905283
Date of previous inspection	30 April 2013
Telephone number	07939 465 915

Mosterton Pre-school registered in 1981 and is run by a parent committee. It operates from the village hall situated in Mosterton, Dorset. The pre-school provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school is open Monday to Friday from 9am until 12pm, with an optional lunch club from 12pm until 12.45pm. There are six members of staff employed, the majority of whom hold childcare qualifications between levels 2 and 4.

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