

Cranmore & Doulting Preschool



Memorial Hall, West Cranmore, Shepton Mallet, Somerset, BA4 4QJ

Inspection date	9 January 2017
Previous inspection date	16 January 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

- Staff use their secure knowledge of how children learn and develop to plan activities that focus well on children's individual interests and abilities. Children make good progress in their learning and development.
- Children are happy and form close bonds with the experienced staff. Staff respond well to children's individual needs, helping them to feel safe. The encouragement from staff supports children's emotional well-being effectively.
- Staff are friendly and approachable. They work successfully with parents, who confidently leave their children in their care. Staff support new parents well to ensure they work together to follow a tailored settling-in period to meet children's individual needs.
- The manager works effectively to involve staff to review the quality of the provision and their practice. She seeks the views of parents and children, which helps her to set clear targets, leading to ongoing improvements that support children's positive experiences and develop staff's teaching skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although children count with confidence, staff miss opportunities to help them solve number problems.
- Staff miss opportunities to consistently and effectively extend children's critical thinking and learning further.

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 more opportunities to solve number problems
- extend children's learning and their critical thinking further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children inside and outside.
- The inspector spoke with the manager and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation including suitability checks, policies, and children's learning records.
- The inspector spoke to some parents to gain their views.
- The inspector reviewed the pre-school's self-evaluation.

Inspector

Katherine Lamb

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff fully understand their role in protecting children. They are clear about the procedures to follow should they be concerned about a child's welfare. A wealth of experience and ongoing training helps the manager and staff to evaluate their strengths and areas for development well. For example, they have had recent training to reflect on practice, which has helped them to review their teaching and extend children's next steps further. The manager shows a strong drive and is committed to providing high-quality care and education for children. The new committee is in the process of completing forms and informing Ofsted of its members, but has not yet completed this task. However, this does not have a significant impact on children's safety or well-being as the committee does not have direct contact with the children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have high expectations of what children can achieve. They use their accurate observations and assessments of children's development well to plan for children's individual needs and provide information for parents to extend children's learning at home. Overall, staff provide a good variety of experiences to support children's creativity and imagination. For example, they encourage children to explore play dough and see the difference in textures when adding uncooked pasta and popcorn. Boys delight in using remote control toys, developing their confidence in technology. Children are very confident communicators who enjoy talking to others and staff as they play. Children enjoy building structures using blocks, for example, to make a house.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

A strong key-person system successfully supports children's positive relationships and sense of security. Staff know each child and their family circumstances extremely well. They work successfully with health professionals, for example, to effectively support individual children and their needs. Children are active and enthusiastic learners. They enjoy being physically active, and they learn new skills to balance and jump using sit-on hoppers in the garden. Children are well behaved. They learn to share and take turns, respect each other and use good manners.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who are learning English as an additional language, develop good skills in readiness for their next stages in learning, including going to school. They are confident learners who are willing to try new experiences. Children develop good social skills and enjoy playing with others. They enjoy looking at books and eagerly listen to a story read by staff. Children begin to make marks and develop their early writing skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	142975
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1061474
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	19
Name of registered person	Cranmore & Doultling Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP907553
Date of previous inspection	16 January 2013
Telephone number	07751 533997

Cranmore and Doultling Preschool operates from the Memorial Hall situated in the centre of the village of Cranmore, in Somerset. The pre-school is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school opens on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9am to 3pm and on Tuesday from 9am to 1pm, during term time only. There are three members of staff employed, including the manager, who all have a level 3 qualification in childcare and early years education.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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