

Tithe Barn Preschool

Cheltenham Road, Bishops Cleeve, CHELTENHAM, Gloucestershire GL52 8LU



Inspection date	30 October 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is outstanding

- The highly inspirational and enthusiastic owners, who are also the managers, and staff have worked exceptionally hard since registration to provide an excellent level of care for the children. They have superb systems for self-evaluation, and they are highly successful in gaining the opinions of parents, children and staff. For example, they invite parents to stay-and-play sessions and gather their thoughts and suggestions for future improvements.
- The managers and staff monitor and track the progress of individual children and different groups tremendously well. This enables them to identify any gaps rapidly and provide exceptionally well-targeted support for children who require extra support or extension in their learning. Children make outstanding progress relative to their starting points.
- Staff have a sharp focus on supporting children's communication and language skills and social skills even further. They are highly skilled in questioning and allowing children to express their ideas and suggestions.
- There are extremely effective partnerships with parents, carers and other professionals. The managers and staff value parents highly and involve them in all aspects of children's learning. For example, staff have recently introduced activity bags, with instruction for parents about how to use the enclosed items, to enable them to support their child's learning even further at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the already excellent outdoor experiences for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and staff interactions with the children, in the inside and the outside learning environment.
- The inspector had a meeting with the joint owner/managers and carried out a joint observation with one of them.
- The inspector spoke to staff, parents, carers and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector checked the evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children and looked at the provider's improvement plan.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records, safeguarding procedures and written policies and procedures.

Inspector

Hilary Tierney

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Staff have an excellent understanding of child protection procedures. They have a clear understanding and awareness of the indicators that may alert them to any concerns about a child's welfare. There are rigorous recruitment and induction procedures to help ensure the continued suitability of staff. Safeguarding is effective. There are excellent systems for monitoring staff performance regularly to ensure the quality of teaching is high. The highly qualified staff work exceptionally well as a team, and are extremely motivated to continue to maintain their professional development. For example, recent training focused on how staff can support and engage boys in their learning further. Staff have identified that by developing the forest area even further, this will have a positive impact on those children who learn better outside.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff use the knowledge gained from their qualifications exceptionally well and they have an excellent knowledge of what the children know and can do. Observation, planning and assessments systems are exceptionally rigorous, staff include parents and children's ideas and interests to plan activities that challenge and extend children's learning. Staff support children's problem-solving skills to support learning further. For example, when building pretend fires staff ask children what they can do to stop the logs falling and make the fire burn hotter. Children thoroughly enjoy walks around the local allotments, as they talk about the chickens and look at the vegetables being grown. They take great delight in pretending to build a fire in the woodland area and find sticks and leaves. Children talk confidently about keeping safe and not going too near to the fire. They develop their imagination exceptionally well. For example, they enjoy pretending to toast marshmallows. Children have exceptional opportunities to learn about their community, such as when they visit the local retirement home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children demonstrate extremely high levels of confidence, self-esteem and emotional security. The excellent settling-in procedures help children settle in quickly and get to know their key person from the outset. Staff are kind, caring and highly motivated to provide a safe and secure environment where children can thrive. Children are exceptionally well behaved and respond well to the positive language staff use. Staff lavish praise on children for their ideas and suggestions about what they can do next. Children learn exceptional levels of safety, such as wearing helmets as they ride their scooters around the outside space.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are highly motivated and eager to learn. They are encouraged to become independent learners. For example, they confidently make choices of what they would like to do. Children take part in activities with excitement and enjoyment. They count confidently and fully engage in activities to help them in early recognition of numbers. Children have excellent levels of concentration as they listen to stories and take part in purposeful activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY538987
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	10079422
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	31
Name of registered person	Tithe Barn Preschool Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP538986
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07518134495

Tithe Barn Preschool registered in 2016 and is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9am to 3pm and on Wednesday from 9am to 1pm during term times only. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. A team of nine staff work directly with the children, including the two owner/managers. Of these, five members of staff are qualified teachers and three hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 2 or 3.

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