

Chalk Hill Pre-school and Toddler Group



St Mary's Church Hall, Church Street, Willingdon, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN20 9HT

Inspection date 1 February 2018
Previous inspection date 21 May 2015

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 manager and staff build strong relationships with parents. They offer plenty of opportunity for parents to feed back their suggestions. They regularly share children's progress with parents and value and celebrate the achievements children make. Parents speak very positively about the quality of care their children receive.
- Staff acknowledge and respond well to the children's individual interests. They provide a wide range of activities to support children to learn more about the things that interest them. They listen to children and respond well to their questions and ideas.
- Children behave very well. They understand the rules and boundaries of the setting and respond positively to instructions and requests from staff. They form close relationships with staff and develop positive attitudes towards learning.
- Staff observe children closely and make accurate assessments about the progress they make. Leaders have built up strong links with other local providers, such as the local school. They share information well and make sure children have the skills they need for starting school.
- The manager monitors groups of children's development well and identifies and addresses any gaps in the progress they make.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The organisation of the pre-school environment and the structure of the daily routine do not always maximise the learning opportunities available to children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of the space available to children and the daily routine to maximise children's learning, inside and outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and support for children's learning, inside and outside.
- The inspector held discussions with staff and children.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents, including policies, risk assessments and children's development records.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager to evaluate the quality of teaching.
- The inspector spoke to a small group of parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Pippa Clark

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager supports staff development well and is keen to act upon requests for further training. She monitors and evaluates staff performance regularly, identifying where further improvements can be made. Children's progress is monitored closely and any gaps in development are identified and addressed, using funding and support from other agencies when needed. Safeguarding is effective. Staff clearly understand their responsibility to pass on any concerns about children's welfare and confidently know how to follow the referral process.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of teaching is consistently good. Staff value children's efforts and the things they create. They take photographs of the models children make and display these for parents to see. Staff value the things children say. They display the words children use to describe winter and re-visit these with children during the session. Children are encouraged to wait and take turns during activities. Staff use sand timers to reinforce the children's sense of time and their understanding of turn taking. Staff communicate with children well. They encourage them to think about how they can find out more about the things that interest them. For example, children and staff regularly visit the local library to support their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The environment is well resourced and reflects children's interests. Children move around the setting confidently, accessing the resources they need to support their learning. Children enjoy a range of healthy snacks, making independent choices about what they would like. Children engage in meaningful conversations with each other. They talk about their likes and dislikes; they ask questions about how milk is produced. Staff support children's learning about the importance of a healthy diet. For example, they explain about calcium in the milk that helps their bones develop. Children behave extremely well and show respect for each other. They offer their chairs to other children when they have finished their snack and they independently take turns.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good skills in becoming independent. Older children manage their own toileting needs and dress and undress themselves successfully. During role play, children support each other when their costumes are not fitted correctly. Children use mathematical language throughout their play. They count down from five when it is time to tidy up, clearly showing good awareness of number order. Children leave pre-school confident and ready for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	511229
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	1091191
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	30
Number of children on roll	40
Name of registered person	Chalk Hill Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP903963
Date of previous inspection	21 May 2015
Telephone number	01323 504659

Chalk Hill Pre-school and Toddler Group registered in 1985. It is situated on the outskirts of Eastbourne, East Sussex. The pre-school opens five days a week during school term times. Opening times are from 9.15am until 1.15pm on Tuesdays and from 9.15am until 2.00pm on Wednesdays. On Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays opening times are from 9.15am until 2.15pm. The pre-school employs eight staff, six of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3. Funding is accepted for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

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