

The Crypt Pre School

The Crypt, St Marys Church, Killigrew Street, Falmouth, Cornwall, TR11 3PR



Inspection date

16 April 2015

Previous inspection date

23 November 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff use highly effective teaching methods to successfully promote children's learning and development. Children are very inquisitive, curious and keen to learn. They make excellent progress in relation to their starting points.
- Children's communication and language skills are exceptionally good. They express themselves capably and clearly, demonstrating an extensive vocabulary.
- Staff follow robust safeguarding procedures to ensure that children's well-being is promoted at all times. They have a thorough knowledge of child protection and the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare.
- Staff teach children how to identify and manage everyday risk, to help keep themselves safe from harm. They use highly effective risk assessments to help them ensure the environment is safe for children.
- Children benefit from excellent hands-on learning experiences, as they explore the life cycle of caterpillars and frogs. They explain this process in detail to others. As a result, they demonstrate an exceptionally good understanding of the natural world and growth and development.
- Staff attend regular and relevant training events to extend their knowledge and skills. This has helped them to create stimulating outdoor learning experiences for children and to encourage their free expression, artistic interpretation and creativity.
- The manager and the staff team are exceptionally skilled. All are extremely confident and competent in their role and understand their responsibilities. The committee are very supportive and take an active role in the day-to-day operation of the pre-school provision.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase the range of resources further in order to fully extend children's awareness and understanding of difference and diversity.

Inspection activities

- The inspector engaged in discussions with the manager, staff, some committee members and children.
- The inspector viewed the premises, toys and equipment.
- The inspector sampled documentation and children's records.
- The inspector took account of parental feedback through questionnaires.
- The inspector observed interactions between staff and children.

Inspector

Jayne Pascoe

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

Staff have an exceptionally good understanding of how children learn and develop. They provide an exciting range of learning experiences based on children's individual interests and abilities. Staff interact skilfully to introduce additional challenge to children's play. They make regular observations to assess children's progress, which helps them to identify appropriate areas for their future development. Parents are actively involved in this process, which promotes shared learning. Children are eager to take responsibility, as they help with everyday tasks such as preparing snack and tidying away. Children make independent choices about what they want to do. They learn self-care routines, eat healthily and enjoy fresh air and physical exercise each day. Their ability to share and take turns is exceptionally good. Children are rapidly developing the key skills for future learning.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Children form a very secure attachment to their key person and strong friendships with other children. This promotes their well-being, as they feel happy, safe and secure. A vast range of exciting toys, resources and equipment is available. The premises are welcoming and extremely well organised. Staff are deployed exceptionally well to meet children's needs. There are wonderful displays of children's work on the walls and ceiling for all to admire. Children explore different cultures and beliefs through adult-led activities and keep a record of the different countries they have travelled to on holiday. However, there are some missed opportunities to fully promote children's awareness of equality and diversity during everyday play. Children are exceptionally well behaved, kind and helpful. They cooperate and negotiate successfully to maintain harmonious play at all times. Children are prepared exceptionally well for their move between settings and on to school.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

Staff have a very secure understanding of how to promote children's welfare, learning and development. Staff implement extremely rigorous recruitment, induction and supervision procedures. Therefore, the monitoring of staff performance and suitability is very effective. Self-evaluation takes into account the views of parents, children and staff. This process helps to highlight areas for future improvement, such as introducing more family photos to enhance children's sense of self. Since the last inspection, the pre-school has made significant improvements to the facilities. Recently they enhanced methods of communication by setting up a website that parents can access. In addition, they maintain very effective links with other early years providers and agencies. As a result, they are exceptionally well equipped to meet children's needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	102806
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	839199
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	42
Name of provider	The Crypt Pre School Committee
Date of previous inspection	23 November 2010
Telephone number	07970 367777 or 01326 210900

The Crypt Pre-School registered in 1970. It operates from the playroom in St Mary's Church, in the town of Falmouth, Cornwall. Sessions are from 9am until 12pm on Monday to Friday and from 12.30pm until 3pm from Monday to Thursday, during term time only. The pre-school provides funded nursery education for children aged two, three and four years. They employ seven staff to work with the children. All staff, with the exception of one occasional member of staff, have early years qualifications to level 3. The manager is qualified to level 4.

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