

Ashton Vale Pre-School

Ashton Vale Church, Risdale Road, Ashton Vale, Bristol, BS3 2QY



Inspection date	25 June 2015
Previous inspection date	14 October 2010

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff are good role models and experienced at promoting positive behaviour. Therefore, children's behaviour is good.
- Staff provide a wide range of interesting and purposeful, activities and experiences that provide appropriate challenge for children. As a result, all children make good progress from their starting points.
- Management and staff identify strengths and areas of weakness effectively through effective evaluation and monitoring. This promotes a culture of continuous improvement to benefit children.
- A well-established key-person system helps children form good attachments and promotes the children's well-being.
- Staff skilfully help children to move smoothly into the pre-school when they first start. They ensure children are emotionally prepared for their next stage of learning, such as the move on to school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The organisation of daily routines and group activities do not always give children enough time to make decisions about when, where and what they choose to play with.
- Staff do not consistently promote children's self-care skills to fully encourage their independence.

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 daily routines to increase opportunities for children to have time and freedom to become deeply involved in activities of their choice
- extend opportunities to promote children's self-care skills to encourage their independence.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector observed children playing indoors and outdoors, and viewed how staff interact with them.
- The inspector spoke to the nominated person, head of setting, staff, parents and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents, including children's records, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector took part in a joint observation with the nominated person.

Inspector

Tracey Hicks

Inspection findings

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

Staff have a good understanding of how children learn and develop. Staff provide children with a bright and inviting environment that has a good range of resources which they can access independently. However, staff do not always give children enough time to become deeply involved in their own play choices. Staff include parents in the initial assessment of their children. This ensures staff know children well and are able to plan purposeful play following the children's own interests. For example, children enjoy learning about the wider world; they make paper boats to sail down the Nile when learning about Egypt. Ongoing assessment of children's development means children progress well. Staff identify and target any gaps in children's learning and work with other professionals as required. The quality of teaching is good. Staff use appropriate challenges to inspire and motivate children to learn. Children have good opportunities to practise and extend their communication skills, because staff listen attentively and give children time to respond to questions. This promotes children's thinking and language. For example, children enjoyed talking with staff about London through a postcard sent by 'Tatty Teddy'.

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

Children settle extremely well, showing they are confident and feel secure. Staff are good role models which encourages children to respect their peers. Staff are welcoming, enthusiastic, motivated and well deployed. Children make good progress particularly in personal, social and emotional development. This has a positive impact on the children's emotional well-being. Generally, children are encouraged to develop their own self-help skills and become independent. However, occasionally staff are inconsistent which does not allow all children to have the same experiences. Children enjoy healthy snacks and staff promote healthy lifestyles well. Children wash their own hands before snack. Children have daily access to fresh air and exercise in the highly-stimulating outdoor area. Staff supervise children well which enables them to learn to manage their own risk.

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

The head of setting has a firm understanding of her responsibilities in meeting the safeguarding and welfare requirements. Staff have a good understanding of children protection issues and of how to keep children safe from harm. Management uses supervision meetings effectively to promote staff skills and to identify areas for improvement. As a result, staff undertake regular professional development which helps staff to promote further the outcomes for children. Staff have a good working relationship with parents and keep them well informed, which promotes continuity in children's learning and development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	106903
Local authority	Bristol City
Inspection number	839449
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	85
Name of provider	Ashton Vale Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	14 October 2010
Telephone number	07980 065799

Ashton Vale Pre-school registered in 1994. It operates from Ashton Vale Church located in a residential area in South Bristol. The pre-school is managed by a voluntary committee made up from parents of the children who attend. The pre-school is open each weekday during school term time. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three years and four years. There are 13 staff employed to work with the children. Of these, 10 hold relevant early years qualifications at level 2 or above. This includes the head of the setting who holds Early Years Professional Status. The pre-school hold a quality assurance award.

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