

Wool Pre-School

KOW Building, Colliers Lane, Wool, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 6DL



Inspection date

3 February 2016

Previous inspection date

10 February 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 provide a safe and welcoming environment where children settle quickly. Children build good relationships with staff and one another. They learn to respect others' feelings and manage their emotions well.
- Staff provide a broad range of activities. Children learn through play and exploration, and learn routines that help prepare them well for school.
- Children make good progress. Management and staff monitor children's development well, which helps them to identify and address gaps in children's learning.
- Staff establish effective partnerships with parents and other professionals. They know children well as individuals and support their needs effectively. Parents report positively about their children's progress and the support they receive.
- Management's self-evaluation includes the views of staff, parents and children. For example, listening to children resulted in staff helping them to develop their friendships.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some group activities for the older children are not fully effective in building on children's knowledge. They briefly touch upon different aspects of learning, such as subtracting one number from another or learning the months of the year, but do not always include all the children in the group.
- Although staff are encouraged to update their knowledge, management is not always effective in identifying where teaching practice could be developed further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the organisation of group activities, with particular regard to the older children building on what they know to extend their learning further
- strengthen methods for monitoring and developing teaching practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities inside and outside.
- The inspector talked with the manager, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation, which included children's progress records and the safeguarding policy.
- The inspector took account of parents' views, obtained in person.

Inspector

Brenda Flewitt

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Management and staff have a good understanding of child protection issues and the correct procedures to follow if they have concerns. There are clear recruitment procedures to check staff suitability to work with children. Staff communicate effectively with parents and other professionals, and support children's welfare and learning needs well. Management regularly meets with staff to offer guidance, but does not always focus fully on developing their teaching skills further. Management encourages staff to extend their knowledge. For example, by attending training, staff gained a better understanding about supporting younger children's learning. They have adapted planning of activities to better suit younger children's concentration levels.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan a good range of learning experiences linked to children's interests and learning priorities. They promote children's language skills well. For example, they talk with children during their activities and encourage children to join in. Staff plan specific times to help children who need extra support in speaking. Children enjoy listening to stories and join in with suggestions and familiar phrases. Staff help children to develop early reading and writing skills. For example, children recognise their written name and become familiar with initial letters and sounds. Children show an interest in numbers and count in meaningful situations, for example, to find out how many people there are in the room.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff find out details from parents about their children when they first start, to help them make children feel secure. Children respond positively to rewards for their good behaviour, such as stickers for their individual charts. Staff praise children, which boosts their self-esteem and confidence. Staff promote healthy lifestyles well. For example, they offer various nutritious food items and talk to children about the effects of healthy foods on their bodies. Children enjoy fresh air and exercise every day and learn good habits for staying healthy. Staff teach children about staying safe, for example, by making them aware of traffic when on outings in the local area, and moving around safely indoors.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress. They develop confidence in making choices and letting adults know about their needs or ideas. Children learn to relate well to others and consider their feelings. They listen well and respond positively to familiar routines. Children show an interest in written words and number problems. They develop increasing independence in caring for themselves. Skills such as these help to prepare children well for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	153449
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	826008
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	37
Name of provider	Wool Pre-school Committee
Date of previous inspection	10 February 2009
Telephone number	01929 405144 9am to 3pm

Wool Pre-School registered in 1992. It operates from purpose-built accommodation, which is shared with other child and youth organisations, within the village of Wool, in Dorset. The pre-school is open each weekday from 8.30am until 3pm, term time only. They receive funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 10 members of staff. The manager holds Early Years Professional Status and the other staff are all qualified to level 3.

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