

Bow Bears Pre-School

Bow Village Hall, Bow, Crediton, Devon, EX17 6HS



Inspection date

28 January 2016

Previous inspection date

8 September 2011

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

- Leadership and management are strong. The new committee and management have a clear vision of how to drive improvement, to better meet the needs of children. They are developing their systems to monitor the progress that individuals and groups of children make, so that swift action can be taken to reduce any gaps in learning.
- Children are interested and motivated in their play. They have ample time to explore and make choices during play and many show sustained engagement with the activities that they choose.
- Children behave very well. They play harmoniously together, and show care and respect for their friends, such as when helping younger children to put their coat away.
- Staff quickly identify gaps in children's learning and seek support from the experienced special educational needs coordinator. They work closely with parents and outside agencies to give children the support they need, so all children make good progress from their individual starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager and staff share information with parents in different ways, to involve them in their children's learning. However, they do not use a wide enough range of methods to ensure that this is fully successful.
- Staff do not always make the best use of every opportunity to encourage children to develop their early reading and writing skills, to extend their literacy skills further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due Date
■ inform Ofsted in a timely manner of the appointment of a new manager and when committee members resign (compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register).	12/02/2016

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

- seek further ways to develop partnerships with parents, to involve them further in their children's learning
- provide greater opportunities for children to develop their early reading and writing skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's self-chosen play, both indoors and outside.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with a co-manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of staff and parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with a co-manager.
- The inspector sampled documentation including children's records, activity planning and evidence of staff suitability.

Inspector
Sarah Madge

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The provider implements robust recruitment and vetting procedures to ensure all staff are suitable to work with children and are knowledgeable about their roles and responsibilities. Safeguarding is effective. Staff receive regular training and know what to do should they have concerns about a child's well-being. However, the provider has not informed Ofsted of the appointment of an additional manager or the resignation of committee members. This is a breach of the Childcare Register requirements. Nonetheless, it has no impact on children's welfare because all adults connected with the setting have obtained full suitability checks. Staff receive regular support from the management and are starting to observe each other's practice, to reflect upon and develop their own teaching. They embrace training opportunities and implement new ideas, such as daily physical activities that encourage children to exercise.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make careful observations of children's achievements and accurately assess their next steps in learning. They use this information well to plan exciting activities that build on children's current knowledge and skills. Children develop good language skills and are confident communicators. Staff challenge children during their self-chosen play, to extend their learning further. For instance, with encouragement, a child counts how many times she needs to refill a pipette as she carefully fills a small pot with water. Staff provide a variety of craft activities, such as mixing paints to form different colours, which supports children's creativity. Effective partnerships with other settings enable staff to work cooperatively with other professionals, to provide consistency in children's learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop a strong sense of belonging and enjoy coming to the pre-school. Staff get to know children very well and to build strong relationships with them from the start. Staff deploy themselves effectively and supervise children closely at all times. For example, a member of staff is always nearby to offer support to the younger children as they approach the steps to play in the garden. Children choose their own toys and where they want to play and display good levels of self-confidence and self-esteem. Staff encourage children to develop high levels of independence and an ability to do things for themselves, such as to put on their coats.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and develop key skills for the future. For example, they learn letter names and matching rhyming words. Staff support children to be confident learners who enjoy exploring and being active.

Setting details

Unique reference number	105937
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	839354
Type of provision	Full-time 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	26
Number of children on roll	37
Name of provider	Bow Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	8 September 2011
Telephone number	07521 378281

Bow Bears Pre-school opened in the late 1970s and operates from the village hall in the centre of the Devon village of Bow, near Crediton. It is open Tuesday to Friday from 9.30am to 3.30pm, term-time only. One member of staff has achieved Early Years Professional Status. The pre-school provides funded early education for two, three and four year olds.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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