

Needingworth Community Pre-School



Holywell C of E Primary School, Mill Way, Needingworth, St. Ives, Cambridgeshire,
PE27 4TF

Inspection date	6 July 2015
Previous inspection date	4 November 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- Planning and assessment arrangements are defined and extremely well focused. The supervisor and staff carefully monitor children's progress to enable children to make swift progress in relation to their starting points.
- Staff have an excellent understanding of how children learn through play. Children are continually encouraged to problem solve to challenge their thinking processes.
- Children's transition to school is outstanding. Highly respectful partnerships with the school ensure children have excellent shared learning experiences.
- Staff provide excellent support, encouragement and praise to help children to succeed with challenges. This in turn, enables children to show pride in their achievements.
- Staff place the utmost importance on safeguarding children. A safe and secure environment is provided at all times, ensuring the best possible outcomes for children.
- There is a superb balance of adult-led and child-led activities and children are supported by high quality teaching. As a result, children are motivated and stimulated to learn.
- Children form strong attachments with staff that care for them and, as a result, the individual needs of the children are continuously extremely well met.
- Each child is truly seen as an individual child with staff ensuring they meet all of the needs of the children, which includes a wealth of support for children's families.
- Staff provide the children with a wealth of opportunities in the outdoor environment enabling them to learn about the world around them, for example, while on a bug hunt, and to practise their physical skills while on bikes and scooters using the obstacle course.

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What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the contribution of each child's voice, to provide even more opportunities for them to evaluate their own learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the pre-school and held discussions with the manager.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed adult-led and free-play activities taking place in the playroom and outside area.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children and the pre-school's self-evaluation and improvement plan.

Inspector

Lorna Blackie

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Inspection findings

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

The very well experienced staff demonstrate an exceptional understanding of how to support children's needs and interests. A range of activities and learning opportunities motivate and inspire children to learn because teaching is exceptional. Children make decisions about where they wish to play as they access an outstanding and well-resourced indoor and outdoor environment. Staff know the children extremely well and gather information from parents about their children's needs, abilities and interests from home visits and 'all about me' documents. They build on the children's interests and all children make superb progress in relation to their starting points. Staff use their assessments to plan meaningful activities that promote children's development extremely well. The supervisor recognises the value of ensuring that each child's voice is heard. However, there is scope to enhance the contribution that children can make to evaluating their own learning. Parents play a very important role in their children's development and staff encourage this by providing opportunities for the children to extend their learning at home.

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

The key-person arrangements are highly effective. Staff work very closely with parents to help children to develop secure attachments. This is highly successful and fully supports children's emotional well-being. Staff are excellent role models. They have high expectations and successfully support children to take turns, share and play cooperatively. Children play with a wealth of activities in the outdoor play area that promote their physical skills, creativity, literacy and mathematical development. Staff actively encourage children to be independent. Children enjoy preparing the snack, cutting up the scones and adding butter and jam, promoting hand-to-eye coordination. Children have a thorough understanding about healthy foods and talk about which fruit and vegetables are good for them.

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

Leadership is inspirational. Well-qualified staff have an excellent understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Clear policies and procedures ensure children are safe and well cared for. Robust risk assessments are in place. Staff are highly effective in continually driving improvements to maintain excellence in every aspect of the provision. High qualifications and access to further training enables staff to use their expert knowledge to provide rich and varied experiences for all children. Highly successful arrangements are in place to observe and check staff's performance, ensuring consistently high-quality practice. The supervisor models outstanding practice to other staff and positively supports staff in their professional development. All staff are involved in evaluating practice and have a relentless drive to improve further. Parents are very positive about the pre-school and comment on the superb progress their children make.

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Setting details

Unique reference number	221822
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	854600
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	38
Name of provider	Needingworth Community Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	4 November 2009
Telephone number	01480 464201

Needingworth Community Pre-School opened in 1978 and operates from the community room within the school grounds. It is situated in the village of Holywell Cum Needingworth. The group is open each weekday, dependent upon demand. From 8.50am to 11.50am and 12.20pm to 3.20pm during term time only. The group offers a lunch club from 11.50am to 12.20pm each day. The setting receives funding free early years education for three and four-year-old children. The pre-school currently supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. The pre-school employs six members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. There are links with the host school.

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