

Inspection of Sweetpeas Early Years Provision

Community Hall, Yeo View, Yeoford, Crediton EX17 5HY

Inspection date: 31 May 2023

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children develop exceptionally close friendships in this caring nursery. They begin playing as soon as they arrive, independently choosing from the enticing activities on offer. They are confident learners and highly motivated. Pre-school children demonstrate excellent fine motor skills as they use scissors to cut pretend stamps in their imaginative post office. They giggle and have fun pretending to post unusual items, such as their friends. They show considerable self-confidence in testing out their ideas. Babies excitedly explore the activities with the support of a familiar adult. They become immersed in their play as they sprinkle seeds in the play dough. They eagerly experiment with changing its shape using their hands, brushes and plastic tools.

Familiar routines help children to feel incredibly settled. Pre-school children thrive during carpet time activities. Staff skilfully build on children's knowledge, such as when teaching them how to recognise their names. Children are exceptionally confident in sharing their ideas. They excitedly tell the staff about their favourite colours, such as commenting on how much they love the colour magenta. Children's vocabulary development is superb.

Children take part in a rich set of experiences as part of an exciting curriculum. Staff organise high-quality visits from specialists throughout the year to develop children's interests, such as ceramic painting workshops. Children gain an excellent awareness of cultural diversity as they learn about festivals, such as Holi, Diwali and Chinese New Year, which are important to their friends in the nursery.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Leaders have put in place an ambitious curriculum. There is a clear intent for the curriculum that is fully understood and promoted by all members of staff. Staff provide a vast number of daily activities, which are designed to comprehensively cover each of the children's next steps.
- Teaching is of a very high quality. Leaders regularly observe staff and provide frequent supervision throughout the year. They ensure staff take part in regular, personalised professional development. New staff work closely with leaders as part of a thorough induction process. Staff are passionate about giving children the best possible start in life.
- Leaders organise the nursery exceptionally well. The close-knit staff fully understand their roles and responsibilities and work dynamically alongside each other. The learning environment is exciting and purposeful, with a balance of indoor and outdoor play. They make highly effective use of the different spaces available. For example, children safely pick fruit with staff in the allotment area to eat at snack time.

- Children become deeply engaged in their play. Babies and toddlers delight as they use plastic tools to fill containers with sand in the 'woodland garden'. Older children immerse themselves in play with toys that challenge them, such as the coding toys.
- Children demonstrate a great love of stories, songs and music. Staff ensure there are an abundant number of books for children to look at. Babies and toddlers excitedly choose books to share with staff. Staff skilfully use stories and music to inspire children to learn.
- Staff have consistently high expectations of children. They promote children's independence as an integral part of the curriculum. Children relish the opportunity to help staff and each other. For instance, children tidy up their plates and cutlery at mealtimes. They also show a superb sense of responsibility as they conscientiously tidy away their allocated toys and equipment at the end of the day. Behaviour is exceptionally good.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) receive an excellent level of support. Staff quickly identify possible concerns and make swift referrals to other agencies. They develop excellent relationships with children and gently encourage them to take part in activities with other children. Leaders are extremely knowledgeable in supporting children with a variety of complex educational needs. As a result, children with SEND make rapid progress.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent. Staff organise special community events throughout the year to help parents become more involved in their children's learning, such as Easter egg hunts, sports days and Christmas concerts. Parents are glowing in their praise for staff and the outstanding progress their children make. They have particularly high regard for the owner who goes above and beyond to help them. She offers exceptional additional advice and support to parents for children's learning at home and even visits them in their homes if necessary.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff are highly vigilant to any possible risk that may cause a child harm. They effectively teach children appropriate ways to help keep themselves safe, such as when playing in the park. Staff have an excellent understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse, including radicalisation. They have a very clear understanding of how to record and report any concerns they may have about a child. Staff complete a wide range of training throughout the year to keep their knowledge up to date. For example, the manager sets regular safeguarding quizzes to test their knowledge. Staff are extremely confident in using the whistle-blowing policy if they had cause for concern about a colleague.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2634553
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	10285887
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 4
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	26
Name of registered person	Gilliver, Claire
Registered person unique reference number	2634552
Telephone number	07774944184
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Sweetpeas Early Years Provision registered in 2021 and operates from the community hall in Yeoford, Devon. It is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 7.30am to 6pm throughout the year. The owner works directly with the children. She employs six members of staff. Three members of staff, including the manager, hold an early years qualification at level 3, two hold an early years qualification at level 2 and one is unqualified. The setting is in receipt of funding for early years education for three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Leanne Edge

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The owner, manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Children spoke to/communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The owner and the inspector carried out a joint observation of a story time in the outdoor area.
- Parents shared their views on the setting with the inspector.
- The owner showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.

We carried out this inspection 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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