

Crowgate Child Centre

Bishops Castle Children's Centre, Oak Meadow, BISHOPS CASTLE, Shropshire, SY9 5PA



Inspection date

25 October 2016

Previous inspection date

19 December 2012

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

- Staff help children to recognise and respond to their own physical needs. All children have opportunity on a daily basis for physical play, as they enjoy free access to the outdoors. Weekly additional outings within the school grounds extend opportunities for outdoor learning even further.
- An effective key-person system ensures that children form close relationships with staff. This supports all children, especially those who are new to the setting, as staff are responsive to children's needs.
- The well qualified and experienced staff team promotes children's learning well through good quality teaching. Children show good levels of confidence and are motivated and eager to learn.
- Partnership working with the school on site is strong. Children have opportunities to visit and take part in activities with the Reception class prior to their move on to school. This helps to ensure children are well prepared emotionally for the next steps in their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Assessment arrangements are not yet fully effective. Staff do not precisely monitor the progress of different groups of children to identify any gaps in learning as promptly as possible.
- Staff do not obtain enough information from parents about their children's abilities and development when they first start, in order to promote children's rapid progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further monitoring of children's learning and development so that the progress made by different groups of children is identified and gaps in learning rapidly closed
- gain more detailed information from all parents about what their children know and can do when they start.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.

Inspector

Lesley Bott

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Rigorous checks for new staff are in place and a comprehensive induction process. This helps to ensure that all staff are aware of their duty to protect children and know how and where to report any concerns. The manager has high expectations for the staff, children and families she supports. They all work together to identify areas for improvement, which are added to the setting's self-evaluation and action plans. Regular opportunities for staff supervision and the monitoring of practice help to ensure the continued quality of the setting. Effective risk assessments are carried out by staff. This ensures that the environment remains consistently safe for children to play in.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know and understand the children well. They use this information effectively to plan interesting and challenging activities. Children play enthusiastically outdoors. They use their imagination and creative skills as they play hide and seek, crawling in and out of the tepee, hiding from each other. Staff support children's communication skills well. They use purposeful strategies, such as modelling new words and questioning children as they play. Children sit eagerly to listen to a story as staff use props to enhance and make the story more realistic for them. Staff enable children to explore and solve problems. Children use magnifying glasses confidently as they examine seasonal items, such as conkers, acorns and different coloured leaves.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Behaviour management is effective. Staff gently remind children about the rules, such as no running inside. Children learn to share and take turns with favourite items of equipment. They learn to tolerate differences and to respect each other, from staff who are positive role models. Staff skilfully support children's independence and confidence. Equipment and resources are kept at low level, in baskets that are labelled with pictures, in order to help children initiate their own play. Children benefit from healthy lifestyles. They enjoy healthy and nutritious snacks, which are often linked to topics or seasons. Children enjoy tasting different apples, comparing colours, size and sweetness at snack time.

Outcomes for children are good

Children effectively recognise and respond to their own physical needs and learn to manage risks. Children climb, balance, pedal and scoot at speed outdoors. Children learn to do things for themselves as they develop their self-care skills. They confidently wash their hands before snack time to get ready to eat as they learn the routine of the day. Children have plenty of opportunities to develop early writing skills using a variety of materials. Young children enjoy manipulating the dough into pumpkins using a varied selection of resources.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY386783
Local authority	Shropshire
Inspection number	1059830
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 - 11
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	32
Name of registered person	Crowgate Child Centre Ltd.
Registered person unique reference number	RP523043
Date of previous inspection	19 December 2012
Telephone number	01588 630133

Crowgate Child Centre was registered in 1995. The setting employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 6 and one has a qualification at level 3. The setting opens from Monday to Friday and all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm during term time and 8am until 3pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays during holidays. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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