

Inspection of Dobwalls School Nursery

Dobwalls CP School, Duloe Road, Dobwalls, Liskeard, Cornwall PL14 4LU

Inspection date: 4 December 2024

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy and secure in this nursery, where staff build strong relationships with them. Staff recognise the positive impact these relationships have on children's development. Children eagerly ask staff to play with them and enjoy spending time with them. For example, staff help children pretend to shower toy babies. Children happily sit on staff members' laps as they listen to them read stories. Children are well prepared for their next stage of learning. Pre-school children develop skills required for school, such as learning in a group and listening to others' opinions. Staff guide them to explore the names of the days of the week. They support children to recognise letter sounds such as 'c', which they discuss is the starting sound from the word 'cow'. Teachers from the school next door visit the pre-school children, building their knowledge of phonics and their confidence and getting to know the adults they will meet when they eventually go to school. All children make good progress in their learning and development.

Staff guide children to develop a love of numbers and confidence in mathematics. Toddlers count up to eight. Staff support children to understand routines, using songs and rhymes to help them remember what will happen next. For example, they sing a 'snack song' before children enjoy a healthy snack of fruit and vegetables.

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

- The curriculum places a strong emphasis on developing children's communication skills. Staff engage in meaningful conversations with children, allowing them time to think and respond. They teach children a broad vocabulary, including some Cornish words. To encourage children to build their knowledge, staff develop conversations. During snack times, staff guide children to think about the origin of milk. They extend the discussion, linking it to the song they sang earlier, 'Old McDonald', and then discuss how dairy farms work, developing an awareness of cows and milking.
- The curriculum has a good focus on developing children's understanding of nature. Staff support children as they explore insects and plants during a nature walk, looking to see if they can find insects in the soil. They also read books to children about the Antarctic and its few inhabitants. However, in a linked activity, staff encourage children to play with toy creatures, telling them that these creatures, including sea turtles and polar bears, live in the Antarctic. This is incorrect information, which will likely confuse children as they gain more knowledge and understanding.
- Staff guide children to develop a love of stories, helping them understand things beyond their immediate experience. Children listen to stories about farms and sharing with others. The nursery lends books to parents, extending reading into

children's homes. However, leaders fail to extend opportunities for children to understand and celebrate people's similarities and differences, and to learn more about different religions and cultures.

- Behaviour is good. Children are kind to each other, share and take turns. However, at times, children find it difficult to express their frustrations and sometimes say unkind things to their friends. In these situations, staff often divert children's attention and do not guide children to understand their behaviour and how it impacts others.
- Staff guide children to develop their personal hygiene skills, for example by supporting them to wash their own hands and wipe their noses. Children confidently ask staff for help, such as when removing an art apron with difficult fasteners. Afterwards, they hang it up, developing independence and confidence. Staff encourage parents to provide healthy lunches, promoting healthy eating habits in children.
- Parents comment that children are happy and love going to the nursery. They report that children make good progress in their communication skills and in their confidence. Parents feel they are kept up to date with what children are doing.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- ensure staff teach children with information that is factually correct
- extend the curriculum to explore and celebrate other cultures and religions further and help children understand people's similarities and differences
- develop behaviour management strategies further to support children to understand how their behaviour impacts on others.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2685851
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	10367757
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 4
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	42
Name of registered person	South East Cornwall Multi Academy Regional Trust
Registered person unique reference number	2685849
Telephone number	07512119185
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Dobwalls School Nursery registered in 2022 and operates from a building on the grounds of Dobwalls Primary School. It is open from 8:00 to 17:00, Monday to Friday, term time only. It provides before- and after-school care for nursery and school-age children. The nursery employs eight members of staff to work with the children, all of whom hold level 3 early years qualifications.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Victoria Jones

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Children spoke 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 looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector and manager carried out a joint observation.
- The inspector read parents' feedback during the inspection and took account of their views.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2024