

St Mary's Kids Club

St Mary's C of E Infant School, Bouncers Lane, Prestbury, Cheltenham, Glos, GL52 5JB

Inspection date

15/11/2013

Previous inspection date

09/07/2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision

This inspection:

2

Previous inspection:

3

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend 2

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children 2

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision 2

The quality and standards of the early years provision

This provision is good

- A warm and welcoming environment makes good provision to support children's learning and development.
- Children are cared for in a relaxed homely atmosphere where they feel safe and enjoy the activities provided.
- Children's behaviour is good and their independence is encouraged effectively.
- The management work well in partnership with parents and the school to ensure children are well supported.

It is not yet outstanding because

- Children are not always supported to be as independent as possible in creative activities.
- There are limited resources to enable children to develop an understanding of differences in ethnicity, religion and culture within the community.

Information about this inspection

Inspections of registered early years provision are:

- scheduled at least once in every inspection cycle – the current cycle ends on 31 July 2016
- scheduled more frequently where Ofsted identifies a need to do so, for example where provision was previously judged inadequate
- brought forward in the inspection cycle where Ofsted has received information that suggests the provision may not be meeting the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage or where assessment of the provision identifies a need for early inspection
- prioritised where we have received information that the provision is not meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and which suggests children may not be safe
- scheduled at the completion of an investigation into failure to comply with the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

The provision is also registered on the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. This report includes a judgment about compliance with the requirements of that register.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to children and staff.
- The inspector held discussions with parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager.
- The inspector made a number of observations of activities.
- The inspector reviewed a sample of the club's documentation.

Inspector

Edgar Hastings

Full report

Information about the setting

St Mary's Kids Club opened in 2000 and is located at St Mary's Church of England Infant School in the Prestbury area of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. The group is on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. A management committee, made up of governors of the school and parent representatives, runs the club. The club makes use of several classrooms, including the music and 'Rainbow rooms', with occasional use of the main hall. There are enclosed areas for outdoor play with grass and hard-surfaced areas. The club is open each weekday from 7.50am to 8.50am and from 3.00pm to 5.30pm during school term-time. A maximum of 24 children may attend the club at any one time. There are currently 42 children on roll aged between four and seven years of age; eight of the children are in the Early Years Foundation Stage age group. The staff have experience of supporting children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. The club employs a team of six staff. Of these, two hold the National Nursery Examination Board qualification, and one has a National Vocational Qualification at level 3. The club has close links with the two feeder schools.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the range of resources reflecting diversity, to enable children to embrace differences in ethnicity, religion and culture.
- provide further opportunities for children to do things for themselves in creative group activities.

Inspection judgements

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend

Staff provide an interesting range of activities for children in a comfortable and welcoming environment. As a result, children engage readily in organised group activities or choose to involve themselves in the use of the good range of resources made available for them. Some decide to sit and read quietly whilst others use construction kits to build models. Children participate frequently in craft activities, and wall displays provide ample evidence of the good quality of their work. Staff plan activities that are linked to children's interests, and provide well-resourced group activities. For example, a group of children led by an adult work on building a three-dimensional model of a funfair including a big wheel, helter-skelter and a carousel. They show good control as they use pencils to draw around templates of horses onto thick card. However, staff then cut out the shapes instead of allowing the children to have a go themselves at something a little more challenging. In all

other respects staff are very supportive of the children and help to extend their learning and development. Staff engage children in conversation and give a commentary on the tasks to be completed so that children fully understand the purpose of the activity. Staff use good questioning techniques to develop children's thinking skills and to extend their learning. Children concentrate well and make good progress with their tasks as a consequence. Outdoor play is promoted well and supported by a good range of equipment. Children say they enjoy the opportunities to play outside regardless of the weather because they have appropriate clothing to wear. Staff provide resources that children can access easily and are of good quality. However, there are few resources that allow children to develop an understanding of the cultural diversity within the community.

Staff know the children well and have a good understanding of their progress and development. Club staff are uniquely placed because they work with the children in school during the day and know the stages of learning they have reached. This enables them to plan appropriate activities to support children's learning further. Children's personal and social skills are developing well and are at appropriate levels for the ages of the children. There is a very positive ethos in the club which encourages the development of strong relationships as children and adults work and play together in a harmonious atmosphere.

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

Children are well cared for in a friendly welcoming atmosphere. Relationships are strong and staff know all the children well through their time spent in school. Children form strong attachments with key persons because adults engage in enjoyable activities with them. Children are very confident and develop friendships with children of different age groups; this contributes well to their personal and social development. Children say they enjoy the club and meeting and playing with their friends. Children show they feel safe and behave very well and follow the club's behaviour code. This contributes well to the strong sense of harmony within the club. Children relate well to adults and enjoy good relationships with the staff who care for them well. Children develop independence because staff encourage them to take responsibility for themselves. At snack time children make their own selection and prepare food for themselves. Staff promote healthy lifestyles well through encouraging children to eat healthily. Children enjoy eating fruit and vegetables, and regularly participate in physical activity in the outdoor play areas.

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

The club leaders provide a good range of activities to support children's learning and development linked to the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. Staff have good knowledge of the framework from their other roles working in school during the day. They have a clear understanding of children's progress through their monitoring, and plan activities that accurately match children's interests. This demonstrates the improvements made since the last inspection.

The club provides a safe and secure environment for children because the club's safety procedures are robust. Staff have all been trained in child protection and safeguarding procedures and have a good understanding of how to keep children safe. Regular risk assessments are completed to ensure the safety of equipment and resources children may use. Staff are all first aid trained, and any accidents are recorded and reported to parents. Regular fire evacuation procedures are carried out and recorded. Secure handover procedures are in place when parents collect their children. Recruitment procedures are sound. Staff are vetted to help ensure they are suitable to work with children.

There are effective systems in place to assess staff effectiveness through the use of an annual appraisal interview and completed written questionnaires. This enables leaders to monitor their strengths, and areas for further development. Leaders use the self-evaluation process to identify priorities for improvement. Relationships with parents are strong because of the regular sharing of information about children. Parents appreciate the reliable and safe level of care of their children and value the relaxed, homely feel of the club. They say that staff are 'friendly and approachable' and keep parents well informed about their children. Information is shared daily when children are collected, and a notice board provides additional information about procedures and activities. The club takes account of parents' suggestions for improvement, which they gather through the use of questionnaires. This ensures children are well supported and their individual needs are met. The club also works very closely with the school and has access to a number of its facilities. Staff share information about the children regularly and this helps support their development and general well-being.

The Childcare Register

The requirements for the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are	Met
--	------------

The requirements for the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are	Met
---	------------

What inspection judgements mean

Registered early years provision

Grade	Judgement	Description
Grade 1	Outstanding	Outstanding provision is highly effective in meeting the needs of all children exceptionally well. This ensures that children are very well prepared for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 2	Good	Good provision is effective in delivering provision that meets the needs of all children well. This ensures children are ready for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 3	Requires improvement	The provision is not giving children a good standard of early years education and/or there are minor breaches of the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. It will be monitored and inspected within twelve months of the date of this inspection.
Grade 4	Inadequate	Provision that is inadequate requires significant improvement and/or enforcement action. The provision is failing to give children an acceptable standard of early years education and/or is not meeting the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. It will be monitored and inspected again within six months of the date of this inspection.
Met		The provision has no children on roll. The inspection judgement is that the provider continues to meet the requirements for registration.
Not met		The provision has no children on roll. The inspection judgement is that the provider does not meet the requirements for registration.

Inspection

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.

Setting details

Unique reference number	101880
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	816831
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 7
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	42
Name of provider	St Mary's Kids Club Committee
Date of previous inspection	09/07/2009
Telephone number	01242 244054

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance '*Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted*', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

Type of provision

For the purposes of this inspection the following definitions apply:

Full-time provision is that which operates for more than three hours. These are usually known as nurseries, nursery schools and pre-schools and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the higher fee for registration.

Sessional provision operates for more than two hours but does not exceed three hours in any one day. These are usually known as pre-schools, kindergartens or nursery schools

and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the lower fee for registration.

Childminders care for one or more children where individual children attend for a period of more than two hours in any one day. They operate from domestic premises, which are usually the childminder's own home. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Out of school provision may be sessional or full-time provision and is delivered before or after school and/or in the summer holidays. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. Where children receive their Early Years Foundation Stage in school these providers do not have to deliver the learning and development requirements in full but should complement the experiences children receive in school.

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 Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, 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 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

© Crown copyright 2012

