

# Chilham St. Mary's Pre-School



Misson Hall, Long Hill, Old Wives Lees, CANTERBURY, Kent, CT4 8BN

<b>Inspection date</b>	9 March 2015
Previous inspection date	8 May 2012

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
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		Good	2
The setting <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Staff prepare children exceptionally well for changes in their lives, such as when moving to school. This supports their personal, social and emotional needs particularly well.
- Children make good progress in relation to their starting points because staff have a good understanding of how children learn and develop.
- Staff work hard to effectively involve parents in practical ways to help promote their child's learning and development.
- Staff have a good understanding of the learning, safeguarding and child protection requirements, and have a good range of policies and procedures to support children's health, safety and well-being.
- Staff have effective planning and assessment procedures. These ensure any potential learning needs are easily identified and met in a timely manner.
- Staff are kind and caring and are good role models. Children know the staff well and will readily seek them out for comfort or cuddles when required.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always fully promote mathematical language effectively when playing with the children.
- The staff do not fully extend children's awareness and understanding of the differences between people, cultures and other communities.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- promote children's understanding of mathematical language and counting skills further
- further extend the range of available resources and images to promote children's understanding of the differences between people and the diverse environment we live in.

## Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a joint inspection with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection.
- The inspector checked documentation of safeguarding practices, a selection of policies and procedures, and their self-evaluation record.
- The manager observed children participating in activities, indoors and outside.

## Inspector

Amanda Hartigan

## Inspection findings

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

Staff provide an interesting range of resources, toys and activities that help children progress their learning across all areas. However, staff do not always fully extend children's awareness of diversity and the differences between people. Children enjoy focus activities and proudly show their work to the staff and other children. Staff use skilful questions to extend children's communication and language skills. There is a good balance between adult-led and child-led learning. Children play cooperatively together, remaining focused for long uninterrupted periods. This helps them develop the key skills required for future learning. Children enjoy counting. However, staff do not always fully extend mathematical language during activities. Children enjoy small key group work, whereby staff specifically plan to promote each child's individual learning needs.

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

Staff support the children's emotional well-being exceptionally well. They listen carefully to their opinions and views. This effectively promotes children's confidence and motivation, as they participate in their chosen activities. Children have excellent manners and behaviour is very good. This is because staff have implemented extremely positive, behaviour management procedures. Care routines, such as nappy, changing ensure children's self-esteem is respected at all times. Older children manage their own personal needs independently and they know when they need to wash their hands, such as before eating and after using the toilet. Children enjoy healthy fresh fruit snacks and independently pour their own drinks. Children learn about internet safety, road and fire safety. They enjoy visits from the Fire Brigade, which promote their understanding of staying safe. This further helps children learn about their local community. Staff have built excellent relationships with the children. Consequently, all children are confident, happy and independent learners.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good**

The manager has implemented some very good teaching strategies to promote standards of care, especially the children's well-being. Staff have recently undertaken training, such as exploring different teaching methods. This has positively enhanced the children's learning experiences. The staff have effective links with other settings to share good practice. Self-evaluation highlights and targets areas for improvement to strengthen and promote existing skills. Parents are actively involved in goal setting and the sharing of information on a regular basis. They frequently contribute to their child's special book. Parents comment very positively on the staff and pre-school environment.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY436522
<b>Local authority</b>	Kent
<b>Inspection number</b>	824181
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	24
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	24
<b>Name of provider</b>	Chilham St Mary's Pre School
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	8 May 2012
<b>Telephone number</b>	07762565663

Chilham St Mary's Pre-School registered in 2002 and re-registered in 2011. It operates from the village hall in Old Wives Lees, near Canterbury, Kent. It is open each weekday during term times, from 9am to 1pm on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and to 3pm on Tuesday. There are eight members of staff, seven of whom hold early years qualifications.

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