

St Matthew's Pre-School

71 Station Road, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 1DL



Inspection date

18 March 2015

Previous inspection date

12 May 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	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		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff provide a friendly, welcoming and inclusive pre-school. Children choose from a good variety of resources, and are confident and settled.
- Staff plan a wide variety of interesting activities for children that are well-matched to their interests and needs. This helps children make good progress in their learning.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities receive well-targeted support. Staff work well with other professionals to meet all children's needs.
- The staff team work well together, sharing tasks and responsibilities efficiently throughout the day. This results in a well-organised session where staff occupy and engage children well.
- Staff involve parents effectively in their child's learning and keep them very well informed. They provide regular written updates of children's progress with suggestions for activities to continue at home.
- The manager gathers the views of staff and parents to inform the self-evaluation. This means that all those involved in the setting help to identify strengths and areas to enhance practice further. Since the last inspection, the provider has installed new hand washing facilities and staff remind children to wash their hands.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always organise the book area effectively to create an inviting space where children can easily select and share stories independently.
- Staff have not fully developed the use of observations of each other to further enhance the monitoring of staff performance.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of the book area to enhance opportunities for children to easily access books and relax quietly
- extend opportunities for peer observation as part of the ongoing professional development of staff.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children taking part in activities indoors and outside.
- The inspector had discussions with both the deputy managers, committee members and staff.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation including children's files and evidence of staff suitability.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with one of the deputy managers.

Inspector

Rebecca Khabbazi

Inspection findings

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

Staff support children's learning well. They observe children and monitor their development closely. This ensures they identify any areas for extra support promptly and effectively meet all children's needs. Staff teach children a wide range of skills that help prepare them for school. They support children's communication skills well, including those learning English as an additional language. For instance, they plan small group sessions and use visual props and aids. Staff successfully respond to children's interests. As a result, children are eager to take part in the activities available. When children became fascinated by shadows, staff set up a tent for them so they could experiment with torches. This effectively enabled children to explore this concept more fully. Children benefit from a wide variety of stimulating experiences and thoroughly enjoy their time at the pre-school.

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

Children show good levels of confidence and independence. They have positive relationships with staff and each other. Staff offer consistent guidance and support that helps children behave well. They are familiar with the daily routines and expectations. They remember their group for story time and help tidy up at the end of the session. Staff make daily checks of the environment to help ensure children can play safely and supervise children vigilantly throughout the day. They promote children's good health effectively. Children enjoy healthy choices, such as fruit and breadsticks at snack time. They develop useful self-care skills when they help cut up the bananas and pour their own drinks. They play outside every day in all weathers, enjoying the fresh air and exercise as part of a healthy lifestyle.

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

Managers and staff show a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and children benefit from a well-run pre-school. Managers implement effective procedures for recruitment to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. They monitor staff performance effectively through supervision, although staff do not always contribute to the monitoring of practice. Staff attend local courses and use what they learn from these to develop their skills. For instance, following training they have reviewed and changed how they plan for children and organise resources. This means children are interested and motivated to learn. Staff have very good relationships with parents. Comments from parents show that they value the pre-school highly and appreciate the dedicated staff team. They comment that staff meet their children's individual needs especially well. They are confident that their child is safe and well cared for.

Setting details

Unique reference number	122612
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	840418
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	52
Name of provider	St Matthew's Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	12 May 2010
Telephone number	07972059389

St Matthew's Pre-School registered in 1993. It operates from St Matthew's Church in Redhill, Surrey. The pre-school is open each weekday during term time from 9am to 12pm and from 12.30pm to 3pm on Monday, Tuesday and Friday afternoon. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are eight members of staff; of these, one has Early Years Professional Status and three have Qualified Teacher Status. Three staff hold qualifications at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 2.

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