

St John's Pre School Merrow

222 Epsom Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU4 7AA



Inspection date	15 April 2015
Previous inspection date	4 March 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	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		Requires improvement	3
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The nominated person has not informed Ofsted of the changes to the committee. This is a breach of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register.
- Staff do not always ask parents for all useful information that would help to enhance the settling-in process and help them promote all children's individual learning from the earliest opportunity.

It has the following strengths

- Staff provide children with a warm, welcoming environment. Staff know their children well and, as a result, children are emotionally well supported and develop in confidence.
- Staff identify children with areas of delay in language skills quickly so that they catch up on their development through targeted support. For example, children take part in small group times in a quiet space so that their voices can be heard.
- Staff demonstrate a sound knowledge of child protection and the procedures to follow should they have a concern about a child's welfare.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- provide Ofsted with the information needed to determine the suitability of committee members.

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

- gather more information from parents when their children first start at the setting, to gain the fullest possible understanding of their learning and care needs.

To meet the requirements of the Childcare Register the provider must:

- inform Ofsted of the name, date of birth, address and telephone number of any person who is a member of the committee (compulsory part of the Childcare Register) .

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor areas.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, evidence of staff suitability and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures to safeguard children's welfare.

Inspector

Tara Naylor

Inspection findings

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

Teaching in the pre-school is good. Children enjoy making independent choices from the variety of toys and resources that staff provide, which motivates them in their play. Children are independent learners and staff consistently use opportunities to extend children's learning. For example, when children played with number puzzles, staff taught older children larger numbers by putting pieces together, so that children recognised and named the numbers 23 and 34. Younger children enjoy playing in the outside area; they develop good physical skills as they practise their coordination, balancing on the 'monster feet'. Staff share information about children's progress with parents regularly. This involves parents in their children's learning and helps them to further children's learning at home. Parents comment that their children respond well to the 'wonderful care' and 'stimulating setting'. A lot is done to assist the ongoing progress of all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, and children who are learning English as an additional language. However, staff do not always find out and use key words in children's home languages to aid children's communication.

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

Staff provide children with a welcoming and safe environment. Children have positive relationships with caring staff, who use praise and consistent reassurance. Children behave well because staff teach them how to share and take turns so that they learn how to play cooperatively with their friends. Staff use routine practices to help children to develop independent self-care skills, so that they are ready for their next stage in learning, such as school. Children enjoy snack time; they talk about the different types of fruits and vegetables that they have and learn about making healthy choices.

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

The nominated person has failed to notify Ofsted of committee changes but has obtained Disclosure and Barring Service checks to assess the suitability of new members. They do not work with the children and there is no impact on children's well-being as a result of this breach of requirements. The manager regularly reviews children's progress and the effectiveness of the provision. The manager regularly seeks the views of parents, staff and the committee to identify where improvements can be made and takes appropriate action. Staff complete training and use what they learn to benefit the children. For example, knowledge gained from recent communication and language training has helped them to develop children's speaking and listening skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY246627
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	832974
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	36
Name of provider	St. John's Pre School Merrow Committee
Date of previous inspection	4 March 2011
Telephone number	01483 454625

St. John's Pre-School is a committee-run group which registered in 2003. They operate from a church hall in the Guildford suburb of Merrow, Surrey. The pre-school is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday, from 9.30am to 12.30pm, term time only. Seven members of staff are employed to work with the children, five of whom have appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above.

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.

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