

# St Nicholas & St Faith Pre-School



St Nicholas & St Faith Church rooms, Alexandra Square, Saltash, Cornwall, PL12 6AN

## Inspection date

20 April 2015

Previous inspection date

1 February 2011

<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		Good	2
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

- The quality of teaching across the pre-school is strong. Staff make precise observations, which enable them to assess children's individual needs. They fully involve parents in their children's learning. Consequently, staff plan interesting activities, which motivate children to learn.
- Children develop confidence and independence during routines, such as snack time, because staff encourage them to help themselves, pour their own drinks and make choices.
- Staff know children well and form positive relationships with them. This supports children's emotional development and promotes good behaviour.
- Staff ensure children receive prompt and effective support when they need extra help with their learning. They work well with outside agencies and parents so that all children make good progress from their starting points.
- The committee, staff and helpers work well together as a team. They complete appraisals, staff supervision and peer observations of each other's practice to help them make changes that benefit children.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Group activities are sometimes too large, and do not always focus on all children's needs. This means that younger children sometimes find it difficult to concentrate and some older children do not receive challenge to develop their learning further.
- Although staff provide activities to develop children's physical skills, there are fewer opportunities to reinforce this learning outside.

## **What the setting needs to do to improve further**

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

- ensure group activities encourage all children to take part and develop their learning further
- extend opportunities for children to develop physical skills further in the outdoor area.

## **Inspection activities**

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning, both inside and out.
- The inspector completed joint observations with the pre-school leader.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school leader and looked at relevant documentation, such as children's records and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

### **Inspector**

Margaret Baird

## Inspection findings

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

Staff provide a wide range of interesting activities to promote children's development across all areas of learning. For example, children learn to use scissors and develop their creative skills as they make paper flowers for the 'garden centre' role-play area. Staff help children to count, recognise shapes and compare sizes during routines and activities. As a result, children develop a good knowledge of mathematical concepts and vocabulary. Children are given time and space to explore. Staff are always nearby and use positive interactions and questions which challenge children's thinking. Some focused group activities are interactive and engage children's interest to link sounds to letters and develop good literacy skills. These activities prepare children well for the next stage of their learning and moving on to school.

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

Staff are very good role models and help children to manage their feelings and be considerate to others. As a result, children behave well; sharing, cooperating and forming friendships through their play. Staff use risk assessments effectively and are vigilant about possible risks to children's safety. They continually remind children about staying safe and supervise them well. Children enjoy choosing healthy snacks, which they serve themselves, developing confidence and independence in their choices. Staff talk to them about the importance of eating healthy food, which helps to promote healthy lifestyles. Children have regular access to the outdoor area, where they can find out about nature and the world around them. They enjoy digging and planting, and using their senses to explore, although there are fewer opportunities for them to balance and climb.

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

Policies and procedures, which the committee review regularly and share with parents, support staff in meeting children's welfare and well-being. Staff have a secure awareness of safeguarding issues and their responsibilities. They work successfully with parents to exchange information about children's progress and any achievements from home. This shared approach supports children's development and well-being. The leader and staff have a strong drive to improve and have addressed all recommendations from previous inspections. They use robust self-evaluation processes, which include the views of children and parents to reflect on their practice and make improvements. There is a strong programme of professional development to improve staff practice, which means children benefit from fresh ideas and increased expertise. For example, training in communication and language has led them to promote this aspect of children's learning well during play.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	102974
<b>Local authority</b>	Cornwall
<b>Inspection number</b>	980610
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	24
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	37
<b>Name of provider</b>	St Nicholas & St Faith Pre- School Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	1 February 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	01752 846674 or 01752 518488

St Nicholas and St Faith Pre-school opened in 1986. They operate from the main hall of the St Nicholas and St Faith church premises, situated in Saltash town centre, in Cornwall. The pre-school provides funded early education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school is open each weekday during term-time only. On a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, they open from 9.15am to 12.15pm, and on a Thursday, they open 9am to 4pm. The pre-school has five staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The leader and one member of staff are working towards a Foundation Degree.

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