

# St Pauls Playgroup

St. Pauls RC Primary School, Pemros Road, Plymouth, Devon, PL5 1NE



<b>Inspection date</b>	24 June 2015
Previous inspection date	25 April 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		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

- Observation and assessment of children's learning works well and staff accurately assess their needs. They use this information to plan a range of interesting play experiences that motivate children to learn.
- Staff promote children's mathematical development effectively during play and routines. As a result, children make good progress in this area of learning.
- Staff support children who have additional needs well. They work closely with outside agencies and adapt the environment, which helps them to support children to make good progress from their starting points.
- The manager and staff have a sound understanding of their responsibilities to safeguard children. They implement policies and safe working practices thoroughly to support children's health, safety and well-being.
- Partnerships with parents are effective. Staff work with parents to set priorities for children's development, promoting a shared approach to children's learning.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some group activities are too large for all children to participate fully to successfully meet their differing needs and abilities.
- Overall, children develop good skills for moving on to school. However, staff do not always extend activities further to provide older children with more challenge.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- organise group activities more effectively to engage all children and meet their differing needs and abilities
- extend activities to provide more challenge for older children.

### 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 a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager and looked at relevant documentation, such as the pre-school's self-evaluation and a selection of policies.
- The inspector took account of views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

### 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 are well-qualified and have a good understanding of how children learn. They interact positively with children during activities to develop their skills across all areas of learning. For example, children enjoy exploring sand and water in a tray; they spend long periods making islands for toy animals in the sand, cooperating with their friends. This helps them to find out about the world around them and develops their curiosity and concentration. Children develop good communication and language skills because staff engage their interest in books and stories. Staff use different voices and puppets to retell familiar stories, encouraging children's interaction and supporting them to think about what is happening to the characters.

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

Children are safe and secure because staff effectively assess risks and ensure children become aware of how to play safely. Staff ensure children have regular access to the outdoor area which is full of interesting resources and activities. Children enjoy riding bikes and scooters and being physically active, which promotes their health and well-being. Staff use snack time to promote children's social interactions and children enjoy sitting together to share healthy food. They serve themselves and help each other, which promotes their independence and confidence. Staff teach children to share, take turns and to be considerate towards others. They act as good role models, which results in children behaving well and forming friendships with others during play. Staff display children's work and continually praise their efforts during activities. This develops children's self-esteem and supports them to become confident for the next steps in their learning.

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

The manager and staff work well together as a committed team. They consult with parents and children to evaluate their practice. They are reflective and strive to improve the service they provide to families. They have addressed recommendations from the previous inspection well. Recruitment processes are robust to ensure staff's suitability to work with children. The manager monitors staff performance to ensure consistency in the quality of teaching. There is a strong programme of professional development and staff train together so that children benefit from a consistent approach to their learning. For example, staff training in promoting mathematical development has refreshed their knowledge and led them to review their practice. Monitoring of children's progress is successful to track children's achievements and to identify and address gaps in their learning promptly. There are good partnerships with other providers and local schools, which ensures consistency for children's learning and care.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	117231
<b>Local authority</b>	Plymouth
<b>Inspection number</b>	840106
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	30
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	60
<b>Name of provider</b>	St Pauls Playgroup Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	25 April 2012
<b>Telephone number</b>	01752 517473

St Paul's Preschool registered in 1992 and is managed by a committee of parents. It is located in St Budeaux, a residential area of Plymouth, in Devon. St Paul's Preschool is open during school terms from Monday to Friday from 8.30am until 3pm. Children attend a lunch club from 11.30am until 12.30pm. The setting receives funding for two, three and four-year-old children. There are eight staff members employed to work with the children. Of these, six have early years qualifications at level 3, and two have Early Years Professional Status.

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