

# St Mary's Church Hall Pre School



St Mary's Church Hall, Church Road, Warsash, Southampton, SO31 9GF

**Inspection date** 8 July 2015  
Previous inspection date 4 April 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

- Children benefit from their time at the pre-school. They enjoy their learning and make good progress in the play environments provided by staff.
- The manager and deputy manager demonstrate a strong commitment to providing high-quality provision. They ensure staff attend training events to increase their professional development, which has a very good impact on the learning experiences they offer children.
- All children are respected and valued, and staff are sensitive to children's individual needs. Children form strong attachments to staff which develop their self-esteem and confidence as learners.
- Children thoroughly enjoy their time at the pre-school. They are very happy and relaxed in the welcoming environment. Staff enable them to take part in and enjoy a wide range of activities which interest and motivate them.
- A very good partnership between the pre-school staff and parents ensures they share key information between them. Parents express confidence in the standard of care, communication and their child's preparation for the future.
- Overall, the quality of teaching throughout the pre-school is good, with some very good practice. Staff ensure all children make good progress in their learning.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some staff miss opportunities to use skilful questioning techniques to extend children's thinking and learning fully.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enable all staff to support and extend children's thinking and learning further through discussions and effective questioning strategies.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the manager, deputy manager, staff and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including safeguarding procedures and looked at children's assessment records.
- The inspector observed staff's interaction with the children during activities inside and in the outside area.
- The inspector and deputy manager undertook a joint observation of a planned activity.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.

### Inspector

Alison Large

## Inspection findings

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

All children enjoy opportunities to choose, participate and become independent in their play. The pre-school is organised to provide a stimulating learning environment, with access to well-resourced areas that children can explore freely. Children take pleasure in their learning and achieve well in relation to their starting points. The staff have a good understanding of assessment and planning, which they use well. This ensures activities and learning experiences fully support children's interests and the next steps in their learning. Adults are good at getting down to the children's height when talking to them. They gain eye contact with the children before talking and encourage children to listen to what is being said. This approach contributes to the building of good relationships and listening skills, helping children be well prepared for school. Children use their imaginations well and create role play games, excitedly talking to their friends and using the different resources in their play to build their space rocket in the garden. They enjoy playing in the shop and making shapes with the dough. Children are developing good communication skills and chat happily to one another and to adults.

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

Staff welcome all children into the setting. Children learn to value and respect each other, and develop a good sense of belonging. Staff praise and encourage the children. Children behave well, developing positive relationships with adults and other children. Children have daily use of an outside play area. They access resources that provide challenge and fully support their all-round development. Staff fully promote the children's health and safety within the pre-school. Children learn about effective hygiene routines. Children become independent and gain the skills they need to move successfully on to the next stage in their learning and to prepare for school.

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

Management have a secure understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Arrangements for safeguarding children are robust. All staff have a good understanding of safeguarding procedures. Relevant procedures are in place for the recruitment and vetting of staff. The manager and staff team evaluate the provision effectively to identify strengths and areas for improvement. Management and staff use a tracking system to monitor each child's progress in all areas of learning. They also use it to review practice. Staff work well together as a team and share a commitment to improvement to the benefit of the children. All staff have a secure knowledge of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Good partnerships with other settings the children attend are in place to ensure continuity in children's care and learning.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY363994
<b>Local authority</b>	Hampshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	838020
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	39
<b>Name of provider</b>	Little Strawberries Ltd
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	4 April 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	01489 582313

St Mary's Church Hall Pre School opened in 1972. It re-registered in 2007 and is privately owned. It is located in the church hall in the grounds of St Mary's Church, in the Warsash area of Hampshire. The pre-school opens four days a week during school term times. Sessions are on Monday from 8.45am to 12.45pm, on Wednesday from 8.45am to 3.45pm, on Thursday from 8.45am to 12.45pm, and on Friday from 8.45am to 12.15pm. The pre-school employs seven members of staff; of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications. The manager and the deputy manager hold Early Years Professional Status.

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