

# St Oswald's Playgroup

St Oswald's Church Hall, Brocks Drive, North Cheam, Surrey, SM3 9UW



## Inspection date

10 July 2015

## Previous inspection date

18 January 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		Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting <b>does not meet legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

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

- The manager does not have a record of the required details for some of the suitability checks that have been carried out for the longest serving staff. The impact on children is minimal, as only staff with documented checks have intimate care of children.
- The manager and staff have poor hygiene routines for children, which means there is a potential for cross-infection. Children also have access to the kitchen, which presents a hazard to them. This is also a breach of the requirements of the Childcare Register.
- The outdoor play area is not a fully challenging learning environment for children who learn best outside. This somewhat hampers the provision for their understanding of the world.
- The manager does not sufficiently monitor the development of different groups of children. This means that she does not have a fully accurate understanding of how groups of children are progressing.

### It has the following strengths

- The manager and staff have a good understanding of how to meet the learning and development requirements. They work effectively together to provide a wide range of activities based on individual children's next steps in learning.
- The manager and staff have strong partnerships with parents and other professionals. This means that children benefit from very consistent care, particularly those children with additional needs.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- maintain a record of staff suitability checks, to include the criminal records disclosure reference number, date of disclosure and details of who obtained the check
- promote children's good health and safety with consistently good arrangements for children to wash their hands and prevent cross-contamination, and by ensuring they have no access to the kitchen.

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

- enhance the provision for children who learn better outside by developing the outdoor area to reflect all areas of learning, particularly to help their understanding of the world
- improve leadership and management by monitoring the progress of groups of children to identify if they need further intervention.

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

- take measures to minimise any risks to children's health or safety (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- take measures to minimise any risks to children's health or safety (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

## Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at play indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector discussed planning and assessment with the manager and session supervisors.
- The inspector examined a range of documentation, including safeguarding records and staff checks.
- The inspector and session supervisor carried out a joint observation.

### Inspector

Susan McCourt

## Inspection findings

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

Parents and staff work well together to share information about what children can do when they first attend. Staff use this to plan activities that will interest and engage children in play. Staff reflect on children's learning each day and reshape the next day's plans to consolidate or extend children's next steps in learning. Staff share information about children's progress regularly with parents, which promotes a strong partnership. Children enjoy exploring the activities, such as finding coloured ice cubes in foam. They also enjoy a wide range of different role play opportunities. Staff support children as they play, talking and encouraging their communication skills. Staff are particularly skilled at including children with additional needs in play; they all respond consistently to children with speech delays. All children make strong progress in their learning.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children requires improvement**

Children are not fully protected because although the kitchen is supposed to be out of bounds, the door is left open while the oven is on. This puts children at risk. In addition, children share a bowl of water to wash their hands and do not use soap. This puts them at risk of cross-infection. Children benefit from sound attachments with staff, who work effectively together to share information so that they all know each child well. Children are confident to separate from their parents and clearly feel secure. Children are well motivated to play indoors as they have a wide range of good-quality activities to choose from. Outdoors, there is less to choose from, however. This does not fully support children who learn better outside. Children understand the routines and are happy to take responsibility for tidying and other tasks. They are well behaved and have a suitable understanding of how to play cooperatively by sharing and taking turns. Overall, children acquire sound skills to help them in their future learning.

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

The manager and staff have an appropriate understanding of how to meet the safeguarding and welfare requirements. Some records of past suitability checks are missing but staff suitability is reviewed annually and those staff without documented checks do not provide intimate care for children. This reduces any risk to children. Staff understand how to take action should they have concerns about the welfare of a child. The manager reviews the impact of staff training, such as staff adding resources to the reading area, following a course on literacy. The manager and staff reflect on their practice daily and have frequent supervision meetings. This enables the manager to make changes, such as reviewing routines. The manager makes action plans based on staff's and parents' ideas which drive suitable improvement.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	139966
<b>Local authority</b>	Sutton
<b>Inspection number</b>	836575
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	34
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	59
<b>Name of provider</b>	St Oswalds Playgroup Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	18 January 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	07914 668285

The playgroup first opened in 1966 and operates from St Oswald's Church in the London Borough of Sutton. The playgroup is open each weekday morning from 8.50am to 11.50am for four days per week and on Fridays from 8.50am to 3.30pm during term time only. The playgroup employs 11 members of staff, 10 of whom hold early years qualifications.

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