

St Paulinus Pre-School

Hillcrest Road, Edenbridge, Kent, TN8 6JS



Inspection date	30 September 2015
Previous inspection date	12 September 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff are warm and nurturing and form trusting relationships with children so that children feel safe and secure in their care.
- Parents are very happy with the pre-school and say that staff are friendly and welcoming and keep them informed of their children's progress.
- Staff have a good understanding of how to effectively teach and support children's mathematical development. Children have a good understanding of mathematical concepts.
- There is a strong commitment to staff's professional development and training. Staff are committed to developing and extending their knowledge to ensure they can support all children well.
- The manager gives strong leadership to her staff and fully supports the well-qualified team in their professional development. This helps staff to promote children's learning effectively.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The new manager has good plans for improvement. However, she is not fully proactive in seeking, evaluating and acting on the views of parents, staff and children to drive continuous improvement.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve self-evaluation by actively seeking, evaluating and acting on the views of parents, staff and children to make and sustain continuous improvements.

Inspection activities

- The inspector sampled policies and procedures and saw evidence of the qualifications and suitability of staff.
- The inspector looked at children's observations and assessment records.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to children and staff at appropriate times and observed practice throughout the pre-school.

Inspector

Victoria Cheeseman

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and is confident in her role. She implements improvements that have a positive impact on children's progress and learning. The manager supervises staff and tracks the progress of all children to ensure that teaching is good and children are making at least good progress. Safeguarding is effective. The manager has a good understanding of safe recruitment policy and procedure. Staff know what to do if they are concerned about a child. The manager and staff work well with other professionals to ensure that all children who need additional help have the support they need. The manager has a clear vision for the future of the pre-school and ways to improve practice further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

All staff have high expectations of what children can achieve. Staff use open-ended questions effectively to encourage children to think for themselves and deepen their knowledge. Staff teach children about the world in a variety of ways, such as encouraging them to look at seasonal changes. Staff tune into children's own interests, and children are motivated to learn. Staff provide a broad range of resources to help children make sense of things. They enjoy looking at books about farm animals at the art table while they make sheep, helping them to make links. There is a very effective system for observing and tracking children's progress. All staff are knowledgeable on how to identify and promote the next steps in children's learning. Staff have a good understanding of how to teach different groups of children and build upon what children can already do. Staff work closely with parents to ensure that they know and meet children's needs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff greet children warmly at the start of the day. Children settle quickly and happily. The key-person system is well established and staff have a good understanding of children's individual needs and interests. Children make independent choices in their play. Good links with local schools ensure that when children are getting ready to move on to school they are confident to do so. Staff are good role models for children, using polite and kind behaviour. Children learn to share and behave very well. Staff allow children time to explore their feelings and help them to develop good relationships. They learn about health and safety through daily routines and activities.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those with additional needs, are supported well and make at least good progress. They become independent and successful learners.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127618
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	846308
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	27
Name of provider	St Paulinus Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	12 September 2011
Telephone number	07796 795811

St Paulinus Pre-School registered in 1973. It operates from a church hall in Edenbridge, in Kent. The pre-school is open Wednesday and Friday from 9.15am to 1.15pm and Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9.15am to 12.15pm, during term time only. The pre-school employs eight members of staff. The manager has an early years qualification at level 4. Four staff hold early years qualifications at level 3 and two staff hold qualifications at level 2. The pre-school receives funding for early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

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