

# St Michael and All Angels Pre School

62 Leigh Road, Leigh-On-Sea, Essex, SS9 1LF



## Inspection date

29 September 2015

Previous inspection date

10 November 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is outstanding

- Teaching is consistently of very high quality throughout the pre-school. Staff are very responsive to children's changing interests and needs. Children make very good progress because of the skilful support they receive from the experienced and well-qualified staff team.
- Exceptionally warm and secure attachments are evident between children and staff. This supports children to become independent learners.
- Children receive an excellent start to their education and are very well prepared to move on to the next stage in their learning. An excellent emphasis is placed on children's personal, emotional and social development.
- Partnerships with parents are exemplary and make a significant contribution to meeting children's individual needs. Parents speak very highly of staff, who keep them fully informed about their children's care and progress and how they can support their children's learning at home. Parents take part in activities with their children and share information about their child's interests.
- Staff are excellent role models and establish clear boundaries and expectations around acceptable behaviour, this ensures children are happy, settled and play together cooperatively.
- The management team show a very strong commitment to improving outcomes for all children. Very successful systems are in place to monitor and evaluate all aspects of the provision.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the impact of changes made following self-evaluation of areas of practice.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of practitioners working with the children, and looked at a range of policies, procedures and risk assessment documents.
- The inspector observed activities in the large room and outdoor area.
- The inspector talked to the staff and children, and held a meeting with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day, and from information provided by the setting.

### Inspector

Ruth Patel

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager and well-qualified staff team understand their responsibilities, work closely together and demonstrate a shared commitment to delivering excellent standards. The leadership team are passionate about the work they do. They show an excellent understanding of how children learn, which enables all children to thrive. Staff benefit from regular supervision meetings and evaluation of their teaching. There are extensive opportunities for professional development and staff are encouraged to gain higher qualifications. This contributes significantly to their outstanding practice. Staff successfully share their knowledge with their peers. For example, staff who hold qualifications in the Forest School approach share their knowledge through staff meetings. Staff are keen to implement improvements identified following their ongoing evaluation of activities to enhance children's learning. Safeguarding is extremely effective. The safety and well-being of the child is given the highest priority in the setting.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Assessment is highly effective and involves everyone working towards the individual needs of each child. Information from assessment is monitored closely to identify and swiftly target any gaps in children's attainment. The pre-school places a very high focus on including the voice of the child within planning. Staff are extremely effective as they engage and involve parents in children's learning and development. The environment is stimulating and challenging and provides learning opportunities for all children. Resources are extremely accessible, this means that children make their own choices about what they want to explore. Children have many wonderful opportunities to learn about the world around them and enthusiastically explore the outdoor learning environment. For example, children make tea for fairies and dinosaurs in the secret garden and climb into the magical role-play castle. Staff model exceptional communication skills, they listen to children with genuine interest and extend language through skilful questioning.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Key persons' scrupulous attention to following children's individual routines from home, supports the personal care needs of the children exceptionally well. The very secure emotional attachments young children swiftly develop with their key person increases their confidence and developing independence. Parents praise staff for the genuine care they show for each child. Staff training focuses on the needs of individual children, so that each child receives well-targeted support to help them achieve their full potential.

### Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children of all ages develop high levels of independence because of the way they are given responsibility for age-appropriate tasks, during daily routines. Children's early writing skills are developing extremely well. Staff build upon children's ideas to provide meaningful opportunities for children to record things, such as their letters to the fairies.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	119526
<b>Local authority</b>	Southend on Sea
<b>Inspection number</b>	874742
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	52
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	52
<b>Name of provider</b>	St Michael & All Angels Pre-school Committee
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	10 November 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	01702 714599

St Michael and All Angels Pre School was registered in 1987 and is run by a committee. The pre-school operates from a large hall and smaller room within church premises. The pre-school opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 8.30am until 11.30am and 12.30pm until 3.30pm Monday to Friday, with the exception of Thursday afternoons when the pre-school is closed. The pre-school employs 11 members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. Several staff have trained in Forest School leadership.

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