

Friary Pre-School

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School, Southgate Drive, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 6HD



Inspection date	12 October 2015
Previous inspection date	19 September 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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 very caring, encouraging and supportive and children form strong emotional bonds with adults. This helps children feel confident, secure and safe.
- Children develop good social skills; they readily share and take turns as they play.
- Staff competently observe and assess children. They carefully tailor activities so that they meet children's individual needs. Staff show good teaching skills when they extend and promote children's learning. They help all children make good progress in their learning.
- The leadership and staff team evaluate their practices and educational programmes effectively. They monitor every child's progress and make sure children's individual needs are met.
- There is a good two-way exchange of helpful information between staff and parents. This enables them to work effectively together to meet children's care and learning needs well.
- Leaders' thorough recruitment and induction procedures help ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children. This helps safeguard children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children are not always aware of the importance of recognising and valuing all of the different home languages represented in the pre-school.
- Most able children do not always have the opportunities they need to take risks and extend their already good physical skills further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide greater physical challenge for the most able children to build on their good physical skills and ability to manage risks
- strengthen ways in which all children's home languages are represented in the pre-school to help extend children's already good understanding of the need to respect and value differences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager of the pre-school.
- The inspector sampled children's learning records and other relevant documentation.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and spoke to members of staff during the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day of inspection.

Inspector

Alison Weaver

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The leadership and staff team have a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Safeguarding is effective. Staff fully understand their role in child protection. They keep up to date with safeguarding procedures; this helps promote children's welfare. Staff competently identify and minimise hazards. As a result, children stay safe and in good health. The leadership team makes good use of monitoring to identify and address gaps in teaching and planning. For example, staff introduced additional creative activities that reflected boys' interests and helped improve their creativity and early writing skills. The manager has completed a childcare degree and is using her increased knowledge to make positive changes to the pre-school. For example, staff are making more effective use of outings as valuable learning opportunities to help strengthen children's understanding of the wider world. The manager actively seeks to promote staff skills and knowledge. For example, she gives them regular guidance and encourages them to attend further training.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know children well. They create an interesting learning environment that meets children's needs and reflects their interests. Children enjoy the learning experiences, such as mixing and pouring porridge oats. They become more skilful as they handle resources. Children readily join in activities and have fun exploring. Staff promote communication skills well and children, including those who are learning English as an additional language, become confident speakers who share their experiences and ideas. For example, staff ask questions and skilfully interact with children as they play. Staff ensure children develop good mathematical skills. For example, they reinforce numbers, sizes and colours competently with children.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff give good emotional support to less confident children. As a result, all children quickly settle when they arrive. They find their favourite activities and soon become absorbed in play. Children play well together and understand the rules of the pre-school, such as being kind to others. They develop good levels of independence. For example, they take on responsibilities such as helping prepare healthy snacks. Staff help children develop a strong understanding of the importance of healthy lifestyles. Children develop good self-care skills, such as finding their coats and putting them on before going outside.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. They develop well in the skills they need to prepare them for a successful move to school. Children learn to make decisions and enjoy finding things out for themselves.

Setting details

Unique reference number	113493
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1027876
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	3 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	50
Name of provider	Tony Barry
Date of previous inspection	19 September 2012
Telephone number	01293 403 873

Friary Pre-School registered in 1998. It operates from a building in the grounds of St Francis of Assisi Primary School in Crawley, West Sussex. The pre-school operates every weekday during school term times. Opening times are from 9am to 3.30pm. The pre-school is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. The pre-school employs seven staff. All of the staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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