

# Precious Play Days

Trinity Methodist Church, Whippendell Road, WATFORD, WD18 7NN



## Inspection date

18 March 2015

## Previous inspection date

18 March 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- Staff are well qualified and have an expert knowledge of how young children learn. Consequently, teaching across the pre-school is strong.
- Children's independence is encouraged and promoted well. The routine and structure of the day enables children to investigate, explore, make choices and lead their own learning.
- Effective key person arrangements enable staff and parents to work together from the start to support children's well-being. Children form close relationships with their key person and other staff. This helps them to settle and develop confidence and means they are well prepared for the next stage in their learning.
- Children are kept safe because staff have a good understanding of how to keep children safe and the procedures to follow should they have a concern about a child in their care. They effectively identify and minimise potential risks to children.
- Staff are always on hand to extend children's learning. They interact skilfully with children to question and challenge their thinking.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally the resources needed to support a planned activity are not sufficient. Consequently, children's learning needs are not fully met.
- There is a lack of information displayed for parents about the provision when it is operating.

## **What the setting needs to do to improve further**

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

- Strengthen partnerships with parents by providing more visible information about the pre-school whilst the provision is operating.
- Support children's learning by providing sufficient resources for all children involved to complete an activity.

## **Inspection activities**

- The inspector had a tour of the nursery with the provider.
- The inspector observed the quality of the teaching and the impact this has on children's learning both indoors and outside.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation including a sample of policies, children's assessment records and planning documents.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the provider.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, staff and parents spoken to on the day of inspection.

## **Inspector**

Lorraine Meldrum Sunter

## Inspection findings

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

The activities are designed to engage the interest of the children and to allow them to investigate for themselves, as a result children are keen and inquisitive learners. Staff use sensitive questioning to increase children's vocabulary which supports them to become confident communicators. Staff plan fun, physical activities which engage and enable children to develop their problem solving skills. For example, identify and run to find the red square, the orange triangle. Children enjoy discovering that salt melts ice and talk about different ways that ice melts. However, sometimes staff underestimate the quantity of resources needed, such as the amount of salt, for children to fully complete an activity. This inhibits the learning and enjoyment experience for the children involved. Early literacy skills are promoted well as children enthusiastically join in with stories, songs and rhymes. Planning and assessment arrangements are precise, focused on every child's needs and interests and are shared frequently with all staff and parents to ensure every child makes good progress.

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

Children settle well into the environment as staff are friendly and welcoming. They separate easily and confidently from their parents on arrival, happy to explore and have a go at activities. Staff are good role models and successfully support children to share, take turns and play cooperatively. This helps children to form attachments with peers and to quickly understand what behaviour is acceptable. Children display a real sense of belonging as they hang up their coats and find their name card to register, placing this against their choice of adult-led activity for the day. The daily routine includes a variety of activities for children to develop good physical skills and coordination. Children learn about healthy eating as fresh fruit and vegetables are provided for daily snacks.

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

The provider/manager has a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Children's progress is effectively monitored through an electronic system. Analysis of assessment information means that any potential learning needs are quickly identified and incorporated in planning. Effective systems for regular supervision and checking staff performance lead to consistency of good practice. Staff are regularly monitored and any developmental points are quickly recognised and managed through training and support. The provider drives improvement of the setting through utilising and effectively implementing her own learning and development experiences. Staff work closely with parents and provide regular updates about their child's progress. However, there is very little information displayed in the setting to inform parents about the Early Years Foundation Stage.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY463058
<b>Local authority</b>	Hertfordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	1004174
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	32
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	45
<b>Name of provider</b>	Lianne Mary Pamela Maltman
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	18 March 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	07852327302

Precious Play Days pre-school was registered in 2013 and is on the Early Years Register and the compulsory part of the Childcare Register. It is situated in a church hall and annex rooms in West Watford, Hertfordshire. The nursery is one of two provisions managed by the provider. The pre-school serves the local area and is accessible to all children. There is an enclosed area for outdoor play. The pre-school employs four members of staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. One staff member has a level 2 qualification in early years. The pre-school opens Monday to Thursday during term-time only. Sessions are from 9am to midday and from 12.30pm to 3.30pm. A lunch club is provided from midday to 12.30pm. Children attend for a variety of sessions. There are currently 45 children attending who are in the early years age group. The pre-school provides funded early education for three and four-year-old children.

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