

St Malo Under Fives Centre



St. Malo under Fives Centre, Belle Cross Road, Kingsbridge, Devon, TQ7 1NL

Inspection date	15 January 2016
Previous inspection date	19 June 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 make good use of resources indoors and in the attractive outdoor area. They provide activities to arouse children's interest and motivate them to learn. Children make good progress in their learning and development from their starting points.
- Staff are kind and caring. They gather information from parents before children start so that they are aware of their needs and interests. Staff regularly share information and involve parents in children's learning and development.
- Children are happy and settled at the pre-school. An effective key-person system ensures all staff know the children well. Staff effectively promote children's emotional well-being to help them to gain confidence and self-esteem.
- The manager and staff track individual children's progress very well and identify clear next steps in learning. They work closely with other agencies to provide children with any additional support they need to address gaps in their development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Monitoring procedures do not thoroughly review the progress of different groups of children to help recognise patterns in their learning and support them even more effectively.
- The management team does not fully include the views of children and parents within the self-evaluation process to support the development of the pre-school even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the assessment system to monitor groups of children more effectively
- strengthen the self-evaluation process further to include the views of parents and children to help identify areas for further development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to children, staff and parents to take account of their views.
- The inspector looked at a wide range of documentation.
- The inspector held interviews with the manager, the deputy and the chair of the committee.

Inspector

Annette Blundred

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All staff have a good knowledge of the procedures to protect children who may be at risk of harm. The manager uses thorough recruitment and selection procedures to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. The manager supports staff through regular meetings and discussions about their professional development. Staff complete regular training and they speak enthusiastically about how they are using training to develop their skills, for instance, to develop children's language further. Staff keep children safe. They conduct daily safety checks and carry out regular risk assessments. The management team reviews the provision and has clear plans for the future. These include continuing to develop children's outdoor learning experiences.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make learning fun. They spontaneously make up games and songs to support learning and they join in children's imaginative play. They foster a love of books and make good use of songs and rhymes, for example, to teach children about letters, sounds, rhymes and numbers. Staff teach children about their own community and about the wider world. There are many opportunities for children to practise their reading, early writing and mathematics during their play. Children enjoy these activities indoors and outdoors. Staff effectively help children to think for themselves, such as when deciding what they will need before they start an activity. Staff encourage children to play imaginatively and to express themselves creatively. Children clearly enjoy themselves and occasionally sing spontaneously as they play. Staff observe and assess children's learning, taking into account their interests. Parents make a valuable contribution to this process.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff develop children's emotional and physical development well. Parents say that their children have good relationships with their key person. Children settle quickly when they arrive and rapidly become involved in the activities. Staff support children to manage tasks on their own as much as possible and encourage independence. Children enjoy exercise in the outdoor area and staff teach them about healthy eating. Staff provide effective guidance to help children to behave well. They teach children how to keep themselves safe. Staff are good role models. For example, they teach children to take turns, to have good manners and to be considerate of others.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and staff prepare them well for starting school. Staff liaise with local schools to share information when children are due to start. They organise visits to help increase children's confidence in a new environment. Children develop a wide range of skills to help them in their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	106223
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	824805
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	54
Name of provider	St Malo Under Fives Centre Committee
Date of previous inspection	19 June 2012
Telephone number	01548 854308

St Malo Under Fives registered in 1990 and is run by a voluntary committee. It operates from the same site as Kingsbridge Community Primary School, Devon. It is open each weekday during term time from 9am to 3.30pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are eight members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2 and 3. One member of staff is studying for an additional qualification at level 3.

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