

St Agnes Pre - School

St. Agnes School, Trelawney Road, St. Agnes, Cornwall, TR5 0LZ



Inspection date

28 January 2016

Previous inspection date

15 June 2010

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

- The effective key-person system enables staff to provide a supportive, friendly and nurturing environment, where children feel safe and secure.
- Staff use their knowledge of their key children well to accurately identify next steps in learning and promote good progress for all children from their starting points.
- Senior staff effectively coordinate, support and monitor the assessment and planning processes to ensure that they provide a well-balanced educational programme.
- The management team uses effective support and appraisal systems to promote staff development and improvement to their practice.
- Staff encourage parents to contribute to their children's planning and share ideas for them to extend their children's learning at home.
- Staff work well with other professionals to meet children's additional needs, helping to close gaps in their learning and help children to catch up developmentally.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always reinforce children's understanding of hygiene practices, especially at mealtimes.
- The management team does not actively seek the opinions of parents on a regular basis to use their views to evaluate and improve practice more effectively.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- reinforce children's understanding of how good hygiene practices promote their good health
- involve parents in the self-evaluation process to help drive continuous improvement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed activities in the playrooms and outdoor play areas.
- The inspector held discussions with the nominated person, manager, staff and the special needs coordinator.
- The inspector checked documents relating to the suitability and qualifications of staff and sampled documentation regarding planning and children's progress.

Inspector

Lynne Bowden

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The managers are clear about their safeguarding responsibilities and work well together to support each other and staff, especially to develop staff skills through training. Staff enthusiastically make effective use of their training, and successfully promote children's communication and emotional development and welfare. Safeguarding is effective. All staff attend regular safeguarding training and take effective steps to keep the premises secure and safe. The clear staffing structure and lines of accountability ensure that all staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities and sources of support. The managers include staff well to reflect on their practice and evaluate the effectiveness of the educational programme. They use regular staff meetings to identify and address any areas for development and drive improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use their knowledge of individual children well to plan activities that interest children and support their next steps. Staff plan and provide activities that excite children, supporting their imagination and encouraging children's speech and conversation. For instance, staff encourage children to mix and create 'magic potions' in the 'magician's cave'. Staff provide a good range of different resources, such as cotton buds for painting, which enthuses children to experiment with different ways to make marks and talk about what they are doing. The high ratios of staff to children enable them to support children's progress and learning needs well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children grow in confidence and enjoy exploring the environment. Staff have effective links with local schools to support children in moving on in their education. Staff manage children's behaviour and promote their self-esteem well. They praise and celebrate children's achievements and positive behaviour, giving children clear explanations about what they expect. Children learn to behave well and feel safe and secure. Staff promote children's health well, encouraging them to eat healthy foods and enjoy daily access to energetic outdoor play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children's social, literacy and mathematical skills are developing well. They play well with each other and gain the skills that prepare them effectively for future learning and moving on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY405150
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	822533
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	70
Name of provider	St Agnes Pre School Playgroup Committee
Date of previous inspection	15 June 2010
Telephone number	01872 554005

St Agnes Pre-school registered in 2010. It is managed by a voluntary board of trustees. The pre-school operates from purpose-built premises in the grounds of St Agnes School in the coastal town of St Agnes, Cornwall. The pre-school is open each weekday from 8am until 6.15pm during term time only and provides wrap around care for school age children. The setting is in receipt of funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years. There are 14 members of childcare staff, including bank staff, 10 of whom have early years qualifications at level 2, 3 or 4.

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