

St Jude's Preschool

The Crypt St Jude's Church Hall, St Georges Road, London, SE1 6EZ



Inspection date

25 February 2016

Previous inspection date

24 January 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The provider has failed to notify Ofsted of changes to the members of the registered body to enable the completion of the necessary suitability checks. This breach also applies to the associated requirements for the Childcare Register.
- The manager does not evaluate the quality of the provision as effectively as possible. She does not always take action to tackle the most relevant areas for improvement.
- The manager does not consistently monitor staff practice to improve the standards of teaching. Staff sometimes miss opportunities to extend children's learning.

It has the following strengths

- Staff use plenty of descriptive language when talking to the children. Children make good progress with their language skills.
- Staff work in close partnerships with parents and share information regularly through the homework folder. Parents are happy with the flexibility of the care and learning arrangements which staff provide to their children.
- Staff are good at using what they have learnt at training to improve outcomes for children. They put together information leaflets for parents about speech and language development and e-safety. Parents are really well-informed about how to support their children at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and the Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due Date
■ inform Ofsted of any changes to the members of the registered body, to enable the completion of all necessary checks	11/03/2016
■ improve the monitoring of practice to ensure that staff consistently extend children's learning.	11/03/2016

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

- develop self-evaluation further to identify and tackle the most relevant areas for development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children doing activities in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to the deputy manager and the volunteer at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to most parents.
- The inspector examined a selection of documents, including children's records, policies and procedures, and documents to demonstrate the suitability of staff.

Inspector

Alexandra Samara

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. Overall, the manager has an appropriate understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. However, Ofsted has not been notified of the changes to the members of the committee to enable suitability checks to be carried out. Committee members do not have unsupervised access to children so this does not pose a significant risk. All staff are suitably vetted. Staff are aware of the safeguarding policies and procedures to follow if they are concerned about a child in their care and receive regular training in safeguarding. Staff are well qualified and they use their training to improve outcomes for children. For example, following speech and language training, staff now monitor children's language development more closely. The manager has a basic awareness of the pre-school's areas for development. However, she does not always work towards those that will have the most impact on children. Staff supervision is inconsistent and is not fully effective in improving teaching practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Staff work in partnerships with parents to find out about children's interests and individual needs. This enables them to be flexible and plan appropriate next steps for the children's development. Staff monitor the progress of all children through their observations and assessments to identify and plan for the right level of support. Staff are encouraging and engage children well. Children focus on activities for long periods of time. For example, they spend time blowing bubbles in the water tray. However, sometimes, staff miss opportunities to extend children's learning further. Children make independent choices about what to play with from a range of suitable resources.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Staff use effective risk assessments to ensure that the premises are safe for children. There is a breach of requirement relating to the suitability of the committee. This does not have a significant impact on children's welfare since members do not have unsupervised access to them. Staff encourage children's independence. For example, children pour their own drinks and wash their hands. Staff explain the rules to the children, and ensure that they respect each other and the resources. They praise children's achievements and support their self-confidence during change, such as during toilet training. They ensure that children benefit from eating healthily and from learning about road safety.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Overall, staff extend children's learning and support them to make steady progress towards the early learning goals and the move to school. Children develop appropriate mathematical skills, learning to distinguish between different sizes and shapes. They learn about letters and sounds in a variety of ways, including using technological resources.

Setting details

Unique reference number	107638
Local authority	Southwark
Inspection number	835793
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	St. Jude's Pre School Committee
Date of previous inspection	24 January 2011
Telephone number	020 7928 4534

St. Jude's Preschool registered in 1994. The pre-school is situated in Elephant and Castle, in the London Borough of Southwark. The pre-school is open each weekday from 9am to 12 noon and from 1pm to 3pm on Monday and Wednesday, during term-time only. The provider is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years. The provider employs two staff members who work with the children and one regular volunteer, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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