

St Antonys Church

122 Wentworth Way, South Croydon, Surrey, CR2 9ET



Inspection date

17 March 2016

Previous inspection date

29 April 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- A very enthusiastic and experienced management team is committed to providing children with high standards of care and education. Positive changes have been made since the last inspection. Staff have a good understanding of how young children learn. They plan challenging and exciting experiences for children.
- Staff form very strong partnerships with parents. Parents are very well informed; they take an active role in the pre-school activities and support their children's learning at home.
- The key-person system is effective in supporting children's individual care needs. Children's strong confidence shows that they feel safe and secure.
- Children behave extremely well. Staff are active in teaching children to respect others and work together.
- Children have good resources and opportunities to learn. Staff are very responsive and make good use of questioning to challenge children's thinking.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Managers are not currently monitoring the progress of groups of children as well as they do individuals, and so do not robustly ensure they are all making the best possible progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop monitoring arrangements to ensure any variations in the learning and outcomes of different groups of children are identified and addressed.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the two managers at appropriate times during the inspection and in a scheduled meeting.
- The inspector observed children's activities and staff teaching, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including a sample of children's records, planning and assessment records, and records of staff suitability checks.
- The inspector looked at the provider's self-evaluation and took account of the views of children, staff and parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with one of the managers.

Inspector

Gillian Cubitt

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

An experienced management team monitors the quality of teaching effectively to ensure learning experiences are matched to children's needs. Managers regularly observe staff practice and access training to improve their knowledge. Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand what to do if they have any concerns about a child's welfare and the managers follow clear procedures to keep children safe. Systems for vetting new staff ensure all those working with children are suitable. There are strong partnerships with the other settings children attend. This helps to ensure that useful information is shared regarding children's care and learning. The managers use self-evaluation well. They review best practice and have high aims for extending and developing the provision.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Good teaching by knowledgeable staff helps children to become inquisitive learners. Staff promptly address potential learning needs and successfully implement individual support plans. There is a strong commitment to narrowing achievement gaps. Children learn effectively through investigative play. They follow their own interests and play imaginatively using the wide range of exciting resources. For example, children acted out stories as they excitedly pretended to make cakes in the 'mud kitchen'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children thrive in the thoughtfully planned and stimulating environment. They are very independent and motivated. Children eagerly take opportunities to extend their learning and try new things. They take great pleasure in achieving physical challenges and working together, making strong friendships. Skilled staff create a secure emotional atmosphere. They are always ready to share in children's delight and carefully help children succeed. Staff make children feel valued and skilfully involve them in making decisions. For example, children have created a 'hot spot' area where they are encouraged to talk to each other to express their ideas.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their different starting points. Children are confident in their communication and are able to organise their play and express their ideas. They explore the shapes of shells and seaweed in the sand and learn the correct names. This contributes to children's interest in literacy and nature. Children delight in playing with water, mud and sand. They discuss and discover how water flows when they change the direction of pipes. They become competent in seeing to their healthcare needs and learn about their local community. Children are well prepared when their time comes to move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY417450
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	1024653
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	20
Name of provider	St Antonys Pre-school Partnership
Date of previous inspection	29 April 2013
Telephone number	0208 406 9611

St Antony's Pre-School registered in 1987. It is located in a church hall in Sanderstead, within the London Borough of Croydon. It is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 12 noon during school term time. An optional lunch club runs from 12pm to 1pm each day. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education to children age three and four years. A team of three staff work with the children, all of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3.

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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