

# Gateway St. Columbas

St. Columbas United Reform Church, Elson Road, Gosport, Hampshire, PO12 4BN



## Inspection date

21 March 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 build strong relationships with parents. They use effective ways to include parents and build partnerships with families from the very beginning of a child's placement. For example, staff carry out home visits to help children settle into the nursery easily.
- Staff are positive role models to the children, who behave well and show confidence. Children know and follow the good routines and are proud of their achievements.
- Managers make good use of self-evaluation and ideas from training to bring about improvements. They actively seek the views of staff, parents and other professionals to review their practices. There is continuous improvement in meeting children's needs.
- Staff provide a warm and welcoming environment for children and their families. Children are enthusiastic about attending and parents appreciate the good, nurturing care that staff take of their children.
- The staff know each child well and observe the children's development closely. They plan effectively to move children on to their next stage in learning, offering extra support to close any gaps. Children make good progress from their starting points.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always recognise opportunities to extend children's mathematical understanding within their play.
- Staff do not always give children enough time to respond to questions to think and solve problems for themselves.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop more opportunities for children to increase their mathematical knowledge and understanding
- increase the opportunities for children to think and respond to questions in order to solve problems for themselves.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practices and the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff, children and parents.
- The inspector read some of the setting's documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector sampled children's development information and records.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.

### Inspector

Ben Parsons

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager accurately monitors staff performance and identifies relevant training for staff to strengthen their teaching practice. Staff share new ideas and experiences gained from courses. For example, staff have introduced new ideas to encourage children's language development. The manager works closely with staff to accurately evaluate the setting and make positive changes to benefit children. For example, they recently improved the outdoor learning environment, adding a mud kitchen to encourage exploration of nature. Safeguarding is effective. All staff attend safeguarding training and have a good understanding of how to deal with any child protection concerns.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff assess children's learning and plan challenging experiences according to their individual abilities. They demonstrate a clear understanding of how young children learn. Children show good motivation in their learning and engage well in activities. For example, children enjoy choosing from a wide range of creative resources and pay attention to detail as they create colourful pictures. Staff skilfully and consistently support children's language development in various ways. For instance, they repeat children's speech back to them and teach them new words.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff consistently encourage children to use good manners, to share and to be kind to others. Children learn good social skills and play well together. For example, when playing in the mud kitchen, they share out mud so they each have some. Staff are very caring and positive, and children feel happy, safe and secure in their care. Staff consistently praise and encourage children and this builds their self-esteem and confidence for future learning. Children develop a strong sense of independence. For example, they confidently pour their own drinks and help prepare their snacks. Staff provide children with lots of opportunities to be active in the fresh air, to promote their good health. For instance, children enjoy exploring outside and negotiating obstacle courses.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in all areas of their learning. Children are confident talkers; for example, they join in during story times and happily communicate with friends. They enjoy drawing and show good attention to detail and early writing skills. Children confidently take on roles in their play and show good imagination, such as when preparing pretend meals. Children show good control over creative equipment, such as scissors, and confidently gain the skills needed for their next stages in learning and for school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY458400
<b>Local authority</b>	Hampshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	932009
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	40
<b>Name of provider</b>	Trinity Gateway Community Services
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable
<b>Telephone number</b>	07504353336

Gateway St Columbas pre-school registered in 2013. It is located in the Elson area of Gosport, Hampshire. The pre-school is open each weekday between 9am and 3pm, during term time only. The setting employs eight staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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