

# St Leonards Playschool

St Leonard's Centre, Rectory Road, Oakley, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG23 7ED



## Inspection date

13 April 2016

Previous inspection date

11 October 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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

- Children arrive happily and confidently at the pre-school. They play well together and enjoy the wide range of interesting activities on offer. This, coupled with effective teaching, helps children to achieve.
- Staff know the children well. They assess and monitor their learning accurately, planning purposeful activities to help them make good progress.
- Staff have a firm understanding of how to maintain the health and safety of the children in their care. For example, children learn through discussions and play how to be safe and they have a good understanding of health and hygiene routines.
- Partnerships with parents and other professionals caring for the children are good and support children's individual needs effectively. For example, staff work well with local schools and childminders to exchange information, which promotes continuity in care.
- The management team ensures staff's teaching is closely monitored and regular targeted training takes place to enhance their skills. Staff are confident in their roles and work well together to support children in their learning.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children's knowledge and understanding of people's similarities and differences are not as well developed as other aspects of their learning.
- At times, the noise level in the pre-school does not aid the concentration of children who wish to play quietly.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to build upon children's understanding of the wider world and help them to learn more about diversity, similarities and differences
- consider ways to reduce the noise level in the pre-school, in order to fully meet the needs of children who wish to relax and play in a quieter environment.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and play experiences available to children.
- The inspector observed interactions between children and staff.
- The inspector asked staff questions about their work and observed practice with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to some parents about their views and opinions of the provision.
- The inspector sampled documentation and children's development records.

### Inspector

Tracy Bartholomew

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff receive regular child protection training and have a good understanding of the signs and symptoms that may give cause for concern about a child's welfare. All staff fully understand the referral procedures, should they need them. Managers follow robust recruitment and vetting procedures to check that staff are suitable to work with children. The manager regularly reflects on the progress the children are making and holds regular meetings with the staff to ensure all are aware of each child's next step in learning. Parents speak highly of the staff and the education they offer to their children. Staff seek parents' views and opinions to help shape future improvements. Self-evaluation is clear and highlights strengths and areas to develop, to improve learning for all children.

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

Children enjoy playing and exploring. Children of all ages enjoy being involved and concentrate well. For example, at group time children show good listening and speaking skills as they share their news from their 'chatter' bags. Staff encourage children's imagination and creativity well. For example, children enjoy playing in the sand and making 'cakes' from play dough as well as experimenting with paints and water to mix and make colours. Children's literacy skills are well promoted by the staff. For example, children find their own names for self-registration and are encouraged to write them on their work. Staff provide children with good access to a well-resourced outdoor area that they visit daily.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well and play together with confidence. They greet their friends with joy as they arrive and settle swiftly to play. The environment is welcoming. For example, children's artwork and their family pictures are displayed to celebrate children's work and individuality and give them a sense of belonging. Staff use daily play opportunities to help extend children's understanding of how to be safe. For example, they talk about the possible consequences of slipping on the sand and what could happen if they do not hold onto the climbing frame. Children learn to manage their personal hygiene well and talk knowledgeably about the importance of following good hygiene routines.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy explorative play. They are confident learners who are able to make their own play choices in a good learning environment. Children learn to count, recognise numbers and use mathematical language with confidence during activities. They are quickly learning the skills needed for their eventual move on to school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	507842
<b>Local authority</b>	Hampshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	1028481
<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 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	28
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	35
<b>Name of provider</b>	Oakley with Wooton Parochial Church Council
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	11 October 2013
<b>Telephone number</b>	07772378265

St Leonard's Playgroup opened in 1976 and registered with Ofsted in 2001. It is run by the Oakley with Wooton Parochial Church Council and operates from the church hall in the village of Oakley, near Basingstoke. The playgroup is open from 9.00am to 12.00pm from Monday to Thursday and from 9.00am to 2.45pm on Friday. The playgroup opens during school term time only. The playgroup receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four. There are seven staff currently working with the children. Two members of staff hold Qualified Teacher Status and three hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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