

St Matthew's High Brooms Pre-School



St. Matthews Church Hall, High Brooms Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN4 9DA

Inspection date	6 May 2016
Previous inspection date	16 June 2015

	This inspection:	Good	2
The quality and standards of the early years provision	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	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

- Staff provide children with a good range of toys and resources in a welcoming environment. Children are motivated and make good progress in their development.
- Staff develop children's communication well. For example, they provide quiet areas for enjoying stories together, encouraging children to answer questions and to think their ideas through. This is developed further by discussions about their home and family.
- Staff build positive relationships with the children and help them to settle. For example, each child's key person supports them very effectively during group and snack times.
- The staff work well together and are good role models. For example, they praise children for good sharing and encourage them to be polite and kind as they play.
- The manager and staff monitor children's progress closely to identify the next steps in their learning and quickly close any gaps. They share this information with parents and other early years professionals to provide consistency of care and learning.
- The manager and staff work well together and are committed to the continuous development of the pre-school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always provide children with opportunities to explore technology.
- At times, staff do not always use opportunities to extend their understanding and awareness of other languages and cultures.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to learn about technology during their play
- make the best use of all opportunities to develop all children's understanding of different cultures and languages.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children playing and interacting, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their views.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a range of documents, including evidence of staff suitability, training certificates and the pre-school's written self-evaluation.

Inspector

Caroline Gibbons

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager is committed to providing a quality service for children and has made significant improvements since the last inspection. For example, she has clearly identified strengths and weaknesses, and met the previous actions about checking the suitability of committee members. A high priority is given to the professional development of staff. For example, they received effective training on managing children's behaviour and involved children in agreeing the pre-school's rules, which they repeat enthusiastically. Safeguarding is effective. Staff keep their knowledge up to date and understand their responsibility to protect children. They know the process to follow if they have concerns about children and families.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff promote children's creativity well and encourage children to use their imaginations. For example, children enjoy investigating foam and bark, and excitedly explore the dough and flour, becoming excited as they notice it shining in the sunlight. This creativity is extended further during role play and promotes children's mathematical knowledge. For example, children pretend to visit the shops and go on outings, and discuss how much money they need. Staff provide many experiences to support children's literacy development. For example, children look for their written name on arrival and during snack time, and make lines and marks in paint. Children develop good physical skills. For example, they use a range of equipment during 'messy play' and skilfully use the pedal bikes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy, settled and build good relationships with each other. Staff are responsive to children's individual needs and work closely with parents to share children's interests and home routines. For example, children with specific learning needs receive focused and additional help to support their development. Children learn about healthy lifestyles. For example, staff provide them with a good range of nutritious food and remind them to use their sun hats. Staff help to keep children safe. For example, they complete regular checks of staff deployment and carry out checks of the environment and equipment. This is extended further during the emergency evacuation practices.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident and gain important skills, such as independence. For example, they manage their own toilet routines and change their shoes on arrival. Children gain an understanding of the local community, such as during trips out. They behave well; for example, they tell each other how to share and take turns with toys. They are well prepared for the next stage in their learning or school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127611
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1018163
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	32
Number of children on roll	44
Name of provider	St Matthew's High Brooms Pre School Committee
Date of previous inspection	16 June 2015
Telephone number	07768518191

St Matthew's High Brooms Pre-School registered in 1974 and is situated in Tunbridge Wells, Kent. It is open each weekday from 9am to 3pm, during term time only. The pre-school receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are eight members of staff, six of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3.

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