

St. Philips Pre-School

St Phillips Pre-School Nursery, St Phillips Church Hall, Gravel Hill, Finchley, London, N3 3RJ



Inspection date	20 September 2016
Previous inspection date	24 October 2012

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		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The manager is committed to ongoing improvement. She seeks the views of her staff and introduces new ways of working to improve systems and procedures.
- Staff regularly observe children and set relevant targets to help them move on in their learning. Children make good progress, given their individual starting points.
- Staff make good use of opportunities to enhance children's communication and language, to help develop their learning skills for the future.
- Staff support children's creative learning effectively, helping them to follow up their own ideas. Children develop good fine manipulative skills.
- Children learn to respect each other and share fairly, such as when playing together. They learn about the importance of a healthy diet, including how to look after themselves.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, children do not benefit from enough challenge and encouragement in their play, to help them explore further and become independent learners.
- Staff miss opportunities for children to build and sustain closer friendships with others, to help them gain a stronger sense of belonging.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of everyday play opportunities to work more closely with children, particularly to challenge and extend their learning experiences even further
- strengthen opportunities for children to develop a stronger sense of belonging within the whole group.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children taking part in a variety of activities, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, parents and members of staff.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector sampled documentation, in particular relating to children's progress and safeguarding.

Inspector

Jill Nugent

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager is well organised and effective in her leadership. She meets regularly with staff, both individually and as a group. She helps staff to reflect on their practice and to consider ways in which they can improve their teaching. She monitors the system of observation and assessment to ensure that children are receiving appropriate support to help them make progress. Staff communicate closely with parents, such as during children's settling-in period. They exchange information with parents about children's learning at regular intervals, and parents enjoy many opportunities to be involved, such as in activities during 'International Day'. Safeguarding is effective. The manager works in partnership with other professionals to ensure the safeguarding of all children. Staff are attentive to children's individual care needs and the procedures for reporting any welfare concerns.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a variety of interesting resources for children to explore. Children generally gain self-confidence as they make choices. They especially like to participate in role play activities and to investigate how toys work. Staff are innovative, such as in their use of malleable materials to help children develop good physical and communication skills. Children find out how they can use parts of their bodies in different ways. They learn to use spoken language more to communicate with others, for instance, to respond to questions or give explanations. Staff effectively teach children to count, and to recognise the sounds of letters of the alphabet, linking these sounds to specific actions. Staff often share books with children, and encourage them to learn more about words and pictures.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff make sure that children are aware of the rules of the setting. Children respond positively to adults' requests and behave well. Children take care to move around the premises in a safe manner and handle resources with care, such as when playing or tidying away. Children become confident in approaching members of staff, for example, if they are upset or wanting to take part in a particular activity. In general, staff encourage children to work together; for example, children help to produce plays and concerts, sell tickets and perform to their families and friends. Staff are particularly good at supporting children's awareness of good health and hygiene. Children enjoy the opportunity to use large physical equipment indoors as well as being able to play daily outdoors.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop a good range of skills that helps to prepare them for their future learning at school. In particular, children show good progress in their physical development and creativity. Children who have special educational needs, and those who are learning English as an additional language, receive good focused support.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY293090
Local authority	Barnet
Inspection number	1058813
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	30
Number of children on roll	32
Name of registered person	Baidehi Mittra
Registered person unique reference number	RP511333
Date of previous inspection	24 October 2012
Telephone number	07423 067918

St Philips Pre-School registered in 2004. It operates in Finchley, in the London Borough of Barnet. The pre-school is open every weekday from 9am to 3pm, during term time. There is a team of six staff, all of whom hold relevant qualifications in early years. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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