

# St Peter's Playgroup

The O'Sullivan Centre, Sacred Heart Church, 63 West Street, Kent, ME10 1AN



## Inspection date

3 October 2016

Previous inspection date

16 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

- Staff provide children with a very good range of interesting and colourful resources to engage and interest them. Children are motivated to learn and make good progress from their starting points.
- Children are extremely happy and build excellent relationships with staff and each other. The highly effective key-person approach helps new children to settle well.
- Staff work extremely closely with parents. For example, they share their children's progress effectively with them and find out about their homes and families. Also, they mirror children's home routines and respect their individual interests.
- Staff place a high priority on children's safety. For example, they complete thorough risk assessments and teach them to keep safe when they move to the garden area.
- The manager tracks children's progress very successfully to quickly identify and plan for any gaps in their learning.
- Staff update their knowledge regularly. For example, they received training on science for young children and have incorporated more enjoyable experiments into their activities.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Monitoring of staff practice does not identify precise areas for development so that they can challenge children to the highest level and help them make rapid progress.
- Staff have not fully considered how to provide children with a range of opportunities to increase their understanding of the world.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve existing performance management arrangements so that targets for individual staff are focused in helping them to achieve outstanding levels of teaching, in order that they consistently support children to make the best possible progress
- develop further opportunities for children to gain a greater understanding of the world they live in.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and staff interacting together indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a sample of paperwork, including staff training certificates, evidence of suitability checks and children's records.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their feedback.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.

### Inspector

Caroline Gibbons

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The enthusiastic manager is committed to providing a quality service for children. For example, she seeks feedback from parents to help her evaluate the setting and works closely with other professionals to share good practice. The manager monitors the progress of children effectively and employs a teacher to develop the curriculum further. Staff all work together to identify next steps for children and to provide them with a variety of experiences. The manager provides staff with individual support and they meet as a group to share good practice. Safeguarding is effective. Staff keep their knowledge up to date and understand their role in protecting children. They know the process to follow if they have concerns about children, including any signs of extreme views.

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

Staff know how children learn and are confident to join in with children to extend their learning. For example, they engage in 'tea parties' together in the role play area and teach children new vocabulary, such as talking about the 'pupils' in their eyes. Children enjoy using a range of materials to support their creative development. For example, they explore glitter and salt with their hands, and use vehicles in the sand and paint. Staff support children's physical development well. For example, they help children persist with the rope steps on the climbing frame and support them as they build towers with pegs. They encourage them to use their whole bodies during musical activities.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The manager has worked extremely hard to provide a highly welcoming and nurturing environment for children. For example, picture prompts help children to understand the routine of the session and to choose resources. Staff respect children's individual backgrounds and provide dedicated support for children who require extra help. Staff are excellent role models and help children to gain very high levels of self-esteem. For example, they offer consistent praise for good singing, sitting and sharing, and display children's pictures and paintings. Staff are highly effective when they teach children about healthy eating. For example, they provide very nutritious breakfasts and an excellent choice of snacks. They also talk about healthy foods when they share books.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children quickly develop important skills, such as independence. For example, younger children pour their drinks, and follow simple instructions from adults. Older children learn to recognise and write their own names. Children confidently mix paint to achieve new colours. Children are keen learners. For example, they cooperate during activities, such as building large towers and constructing robots, and excitedly clap out the beat during music time. Children are prepared well for their next stage in learning.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	127625
<b>Local authority</b>	Kent
<b>Inspection number</b>	1061334
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	32
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	23
<b>Name of registered person</b>	St. Peters Playgroup Committee
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP905307
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	16 April 2013
<b>Telephone number</b>	01795 424864

St Peter's Playgroup registered in 1984 and is in Sittingbourne, Kent. The playgroup is open each weekday from 9am to 1pm, during term time. The playgroup employs eight members of staff, six of whom hold early years qualifications at level 3 or above, and one member of staff has qualified teacher status. The playgroup receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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