

St Francis Pre-School

Yardley Children's Centre, Yardley Primary School, Hawkwood Crescent, London, E4 7PH



Inspection date

9 November 2016

Previous inspection date

28 November 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The highly effective team of staff works exceptionally well together. Staff create a calm, secure and happy environment. Children are extremely content and settle quickly into their activities and the routine of the setting.
- The manager provides excellent support for staff's professional development. For instance, she closely monitors the quality of teaching and provides training and mentoring to maintain the consistently high quality of teaching.
- Children who have special educational needs or disability are exceptionally well supported and they make rapid progress. Key persons provide high-quality support and their partnership with other professionals enables them to focus on children's individual targets. This offers children the best possible opportunities to develop and catch up.
- The ambitious and highly dedicated staff team expertly teaches children and provides them with an excellent range of resources, inside and outside. Children are highly motivated, engaged and eager to explore the environment.
- Staff complete extensive assessments and are highly effective in precisely identifying and planning for every child's future learning. Children thrive and make rapid progress from their starting points.
- Partnership with parents is superb. Parents are kept very well informed about all aspects of their children's achievement, well-being and development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop plans to enhance the already excellent processes for monitoring children's progress to get a clearer overview of progress relating to specific groups of children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff interaction with children during a range of activities, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with the managers, staff and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector sampled a wide range of documentation, including staff suitability checks, children's development records and attendance registers.

Inspector

Christine Lamey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. All staff have an excellent understanding of the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. Leaders organise the staff team excellently, particularly in ensuring children are always supervised and safe. They conduct rigorous checks to identify and remove any hazards. Staff focus on their professional development and effectively target areas to complement their already excellent teaching. For example, leaders have recently completed training to support children who speak English as an additional language. The manager seeks and includes the contributions of staff, children and parents in the self-evaluation process to help develop the already exceptional setting. For example, she has developed an excellent outdoor space following a review of feedback from questionnaires and audits.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff meticulously plan for children's individual learning. The learning provision is precisely monitored so that every child takes part in highly challenging activities. However, managers are still developing plans to enhance the already excellent processes for monitoring progress, particularly for specific groups of children. Staff focus on helping children to acquire excellent communication and language skills. For example, they expertly develop children's understanding of rhyme, and children eagerly finish sentences as staff encourage them to guess the rhyming words. Staff follow children's interests exceptionally well. For example, children played in the outdoor space during an unexpected downpour. They excitedly looked for spiders and reminded each other to be quiet as they played near the 'hibernation bag' to avoid waking the hedgehog.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

There are highly effective strategies to support children's understanding of how to remain healthy. For example, children grow their own fruits and vegetables, harvest them and prepare their own sandwiches using the produce. Staff support children exceedingly well to respect other cultures and those who have special educational needs or disability. Children show excellent physical coordination skills. For example, they have weekly opportunities to take part in tailored stretching and balancing exercises with an outside professional. Children learn to relax in unique ways. For example, they listen to quiet music and watch objects placed on their tummies as they take deep breaths and unwind.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children flourish at this setting and they are excellently prepared for their next stages in learning. They enjoy joining in with singing and developing their communication in enjoyable ways. For example, they laugh and eagerly join in with a 'body sounds' activity where they copy each other excitedly as they 'click', 'pop', 'stomp' and turn around.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY424194
Local authority	Waltham Forest
Inspection number	1062449
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	67
Name of registered person	St Francis Playgroup And Parent Toddler Group Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP517640
Date of previous inspection	28 November 2013
Telephone number	02085293671

St Francis Pre-School registered in 2011. It is situated in Chingford, in the London Borough of Waltham Forest. The pre-school opens each weekday from 8.30am to 11.30am and from 12.30pm to 3.30pm, during term time only. A lunchtime session is provided from 11.30am to 12.30pm. The pre-school employs 10 members of staff. All core staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and level 4. The nursery is in receipt of funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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