

Zion Community Preschool

Zion United Church Hall, Woodend Road, Frampton Cotterell, Bristol, Avon, BS36 2HX



Inspection date

2 December 2016

Previous inspection date

13 May 2014

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

- Leaders and staff analyse data of children's achievements carefully to identify any weaknesses in children's learning. For example, they have used information from their monitoring to extend resources to increase children's interest in pre-writing activities to support children to make good progress.
- Staff have a good understanding of children's abilities and interests. They use this knowledge effectively to plan a wide range of engaging activities which entices children to enthusiastically explore and investigate.
- Children behave well and staff are good role models. For example, they help children understand how to take turns, share and be kind and courteous to others through having clear expectations and boundaries.
- Parents are fully informed of their children's learning in the setting. Staff support parents with ideas on how they can support learning further at home. For example, they inform parents with suggestions for discussion at home related to the book of the week.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff complete simple tasks for children rather than encouraging them to do things for themselves to encourage their independence skills.
- Leaders and staff gather information from parents on children's achievements at home. However, some staff miss the opportunity to make the best use of this to support them in developing children's next steps in learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- offer more support for staff to know when to encourage children to manage tasks for themselves to further support their independence
- make better use of information supplied by parents on their children's learning from home to help in planning for their next steps in learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the activities and the quality of teaching throughout the setting.
- The inspector held discussions with the leadership team and spoke with children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation including staff suitability checks; self-evaluation, observation, assessment and planning records; and documentation linked to checking children's progress.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

June Robinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of how to protect children. They know the procedures to follow if they are concerned about a child's welfare. The effective recruitment and induction process helps to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Leaders support staff with training opportunities to update their professional knowledge and expertise. This has a positive impact on children's learning outcomes. For example, staff attend regular meetings focused on supporting the learning experiences for the youngest children in the setting. Leaders and staff use effective systems to evaluate the quality of the provision. For example, since the last inspection, they have developed the use of resources to extend children's understanding of the wider world.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Leaders and staff have a good understanding of how children learn. Staff support children to develop a good understanding of the natural world. For example, they hunt with children for insects and spiders outdoors. Children develop a good understanding of technology. For example, as they hunt for bugs they use torches to look closely in small dark crevices in walls. They learn about how power is generated as they keep winding up their torches to keep them shining brightly. Staff support children to understand that information can be found from books. For example, children learn about different countries around the world and hear some different languages such as French.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Settling-in arrangements are effective, meeting children's individual needs well. Children enjoy being helpful such as working with staff to prepare fruit for the cafe-style snack bar. Children benefit from being able to move freely throughout the setting, making independent choices in their play. For example, children choose to spend a great deal of their time in the outdoor learning environment where they practise their physical skills. Children learn about belonging to a community. For example, they visit groups at the nearby church to share with them the Christmas songs they have learnt.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good skills that prepare them well for the next stage in their learning, including going to school. Children are confident, happy and motivated to learn. All children make good progress. They are very enthusiastic and persevere to find solutions to their problems. For example, children experiment using logs to raise the levels of guttering to make their cars zoom down inclines even faster. Children are very curious and confidently ask questions to further their understanding. For example, as they look at information books they ask 'is that an anaconda snake?'

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY321532
Local authority	South Gloucestershire
Inspection number	1068782
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	25
Name of registered person	Zion Community Preschool Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP911557
Date of previous inspection	13 May 2014
Telephone number	07715 467764

Zion Community Preschool registered in 1970 and operates from the church hall of Frampton Cotterell, a village in South Gloucestershire. It is open each weekday on Monday, Thursday and Friday from 9am to midday and from 9am to 3pm on Tuesday and Wednesday, during term time only. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are five members of staff working directly with the children, three of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3.

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