St Johns Pre-School





Inspection date	15 March 2017
Previous inspection date	9 September 2013

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

- Partnerships with parents are strong and a strength of the pre-school. Parents speak highly of the care their children receive and say that they make good progress in their learning and development. They describe the staff as fantastic, supportive and caring.
- The well established key-person system helps children form secure attachments, promoting their well-being and confidence.
- Staff are positive role models for children and manage their behaviour well. They encourage children to use good manners. Children share, take turns, are polite and friendly and learn to be respectful and kind.
- The manager is experienced and enthusiastic. She sets high expectations for the preschool, which helps to ensure continuous development.
- The indoor and outdoor play area is organised well to promote independent learning. Children move between activities at their own pace.

It is not yet outstanding because:

Managers do not fully seek the views of parents to contribute to the development of the pre-school in the drive towards excellence.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

strengthen the system for self-evaluation so that all parents' views are included, when evaluating and reflecting on practice and when considering future improvements.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their written views.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and looked at relevant documentation, including staff qualifications and their Disclosure and Barring Service checks.

Inspector

Dawn Barlow

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The system for checking a person's continued suitability is clear to help protect children. The manager and staff team know how to report any concerns and their knowledge of child protection and local procedures is strong. The manager thoroughly monitors children's progress, including specific groups of children. This helps her to identify and close any gaps in learning by talking to key persons to make sure all children make the best possible progress. Regular team meetings and staff supervisions are used to develop staff practice and understanding of how to support children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding of how children learn and how good quality teaching supports children's progress. Staff use their observations of children to good effect to plan for children's next steps in learning, taking into account their interests. Children develop a range of mathematical skills, such as problem solving, counting and recognising numbers. Children enjoy sensory experiences. For example, they experiment and make marks with chalks, water and paintbrushes. Children are confident and motivated to engage in the enjoyable activities provided that help to promote their physical development. They learn to take age-appropriate risks, such as when they balance on different-sized tree stumps and wooden beams.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Key persons take time to get to know children well. This supports children's emotional development. Staff use a range of strategies to help engage all parents in their children's learning both within the setting and at home, for example, daily discussions, secure online learning journals and parents' meetings. All children get lots of opportunities to play outside in the well-resourced garden. They love exploring the natural environment and pretend to bake cakes in the mud kitchen. Children are developing self-care skills. They are encouraged to put on their own coats before going outside to play and reminded to wash their hands before snack time.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those in receipt of additional funding, make good progress from their starting points on entry. Children practise their early reading skills as they identify their names, explore rhyming words and link sounds to letters. They are developing their ability to listen and concentrate very well. Children who speak English as an additional language are supported well. All children gain the skills that will support them when they start school.

Setting details

Unique reference number 253190

Local authority Nottinghamshire

Inspection number 1063829

Type of provision Sessional provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 0 - 17

Total number of places 26

Number of children on roll 47

Name of registered person St Johns Pre-School Playgroup (Carlton)

Committee

Registered person unique

reference number

RP908415

Date of previous inspection 9 September 2013

Telephone number 01159530199

St Johns Pre-School was registered in 1965. The pre-school employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, during term time only. It opens from 9.10am to 12.10pm Monday to Friday and Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 1.10pm to 3.10pm. The pre-school runs a lunch club from 12.10pm to 1.10pm Monday to Friday. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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