St. Joseph's RC Pre School

Mill Hill Lane, Derby, Derbyshire, DE23 6SB



Inspection date	6 April 2017
Previous inspection date	27 January 2015

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 asses	sment	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 management team has a strong commitment to providing high-quality standards. It accurately identifies priorities for improvement, making particularly good progress in helping children to develop their listening skills and to enjoy learning outside.
- Staff have very good relationships with parents and other professionals. They keep parents well informed about children's learning and development.
- Staff use their observations of children well to make precise assessments and plan for their next steps in learning. They adapt activities effectively to cater for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities and children who have English as an additional language.
- Children make good progress in their literacy skills. They have a real love of books and enjoy story sessions. For example, staff encourage children to use their voices in different ways and experiment with words and sounds.
- Staff are exceptionally warm and caring towards the children. Children form extremely close bonds with the staff and thrive in the nurturing environment.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes during group activities, staff do not sufficiently focus on extending children's learning to a higher level.
- Occasionally, staff do not help children to develop their learning during art and craft activities. They sometimes step in too quickly to show children how to do things.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of group activities and provide more challenge to help all children extend their learning
- provide more opportunities for children to develop their skills and to express their creative ideas, especially during art and craft activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the chair of the committee, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She held discussions with the manager and the curriculum manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector observed children at play, both inside and outside, and the interaction of the staff. She carried out a joint observation with the curriculum manager.
- The inspector discussed the children's progress and learning with their key person and the curriculum manager. She also discussed the planning and assessment procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children, policies and procedures, and the pre-school's action plan for development.

Inspector

Janice Hughes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager, committee and staff keep their safeguarding knowledge up to date. They know the signs that may indicate a concern for a child's welfare and are aware of the correct reporting procedures to help keep children safe. The management team uses rigorous recruitment procedures that help ensure staff are suitable to work with children. It supports staff well to develop their professional knowledge. The manager encourages staff to attend regular training and to use the ideas they gain to enhance children's learning and development. For example, staff have extended their support for children's language development effectively. The curriculum manager monitors the educational provision well and plans effectively to close any gaps in children's learning quickly.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and experienced. They use their knowledge effectively to help promote children's learning. They provide a good range of quality learning experiences that are of interest to the children. Staff interact with children in positive ways. They model how to use specific equipment, encourage children to persevere, and praise their efforts. Staff promote children's physical development well. They teach children to handle a variety of equipment efficiently and gain good control and coordination of their bodies. Staff promote children's mathematical and speaking skills extremely well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle well. They are confident to explore the well-resourced environment and make many choices in their play, increasing their independence. Staff are very good role models to the children and highly skilled in helping them to recognise their feelings and manage their behaviour. They teach children to take turns, to respect other people and to care for their environment. Staff help children learn to keep safe and healthy. For example, they encourage children to make healthy options at snack time and teach them how to care for their personal needs well. Staff have good links with children's future schools and help children to prepare for the changes and moving on.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make at least good progress from their individual starting points. Children are inquisitive, curious and have a positive attitude to their learning. They learn useful, practical skills that help to prepare them well for starting school. For example, they put on their own coats to go outside, pour their drinks and cut their fruit at snack time. Children confidently engage in pretend play. They get dressed up as princesses and buy tickets to go on a journey to the theatre. Children balance and ride sit-on toys skilfully while playing outside and learn to negotiate spaces.

Setting details

Unique reference number 206154

Local authority Derby, City of

Inspection number 1089933

Type of provision Sessional provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register

Age range of children 2 - 4

Total number of places 28

Number of children on roll 51

Name of registered person

St Joseph's Pre-school Committee

Registered person unique

reference number

RP517212

Date of previous inspection 27 January 2015

Telephone number 01332 372453

St Joseph's RC Pre School registered in 1996 and is run by a committee. The pre-school is open each weekday from 8.50am to 2.50pm during term time only. The pre-school receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school supports children who have special educational needs and or/disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language. There are 10 staff employed at the pre-school. Of these, eight hold an early years qualification at level 3 or 4 and one member of staff is a qualified teacher.

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