

St Nicholas And St Faith Pre- School

Alexandra Square, Saltash, Cornwall, PL12 6AN



Inspection date

15 May 2017

Previous inspection date

20 April 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 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

- The extremely caring and attentive staff provide outstanding support for children's social and emotional development. Children have a very strong sense of belonging and take part in activities with high levels of confidence and enthusiasm.
- The manager and staff are very committed to continuous improvement and thorough self-evaluation. They consult parents about possible changes to improve outcomes for children. For example, they have implemented a way of recording children's achievements to give parents more involvement in their children's learning.
- Children make good progress from their starting points and teaching is strong. Staff use a good mix of child-initiated and adult-led activities successfully to help children achieve the next steps in their learning.
- Partnerships with parents, other providers and local schools are good. Staff share information effectively to provide consistency and strengthen support for children's on-going learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There are fewer opportunities for the younger children to explore and investigate independently in order to develop their curiosity and creative skills.
- Staff sometimes miss opportunities to explore a broader range of ways to challenge children's thinking to extend their learning further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to explore and investigate in order to support their curiosity and creativity
- provide more encouragement for children to think about different ways of doing things in order to extend their learning further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff engaged in activities with children indoors and outside.
- The inspector talked to children and parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and sampled a number of policies and procedures.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at children's records and the pre-school's self-evaluation.

Inspector

Margaret Baird

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff implement effective policies and procedures to keep children safe from harm. They are vigilant and know what to do should they have concerns about a child's welfare. The manager supports staff development and identifies their training needs to benefit children's learning. For example, staff attended training to help them review their interactions with children to improve their language skills. The manager monitors children's development well to ensure all children make good progress. She promptly provides additional support when there are gaps in children's learning, working in effective partnership with outside agencies. She uses funding effectively to ensure all children reach their full potential.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a secure understanding of children's levels of development and plan effectively to support their ongoing progress. They provide an interesting range of activities linked to children's interests so that children are motivated to learn. For example, children count and match shapes, developing their good mathematical vocabulary as they eagerly make food for 'baby dinosaurs' outdoors. Children enjoy learning about their own community during activities and by taking part in visits and celebrations. Staff effectively help them to compare their own experiences with children from other cultures. For example, they invite families from other countries to share their experiences and traditions.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff use a variety of highly successful strategies to encourage children to listen to and respect each other's views. They skilfully help children to understand their feelings and manage their own behaviour and children take turns and cooperate extremely well. Children benefit from a rich and highly stimulating learning environment with an excellent range of resources. Staff place a very high priority on developing children's awareness of healthy lifestyles. Children delight in joining physical activities, developing their muscles and gaining excellent coordination. Staff expertly encourage them to notice the effects of exercise on their bodies and understand the importance of healthy eating. They very successfully involve families by inviting parents to join in physical exercise with the children and encouraging them to walk to pre-school.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain the skills necessary for future learning and starting school. Older children confidently write the letters of their name and know the sounds that letters make in simple words. They become independent and manage to put on their own coats and boots for going outside. Younger children are confident communicators and older children explain their experiences in detail, using a wide vocabulary.

Setting details

Unique reference number	102974
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	1088929
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	35
Name of registered person	St Nicholas & St Faith Nursery School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP901850
Date of previous inspection	20 April 2015
Telephone number	01752 846 674

St Nicholas And St Faith Pre-School registered in 1991. The pre-school runs from the main hall of the St Nicholas and St Faith church premises, situated in Saltash, in Cornwall. The pre-school provides funded early education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school is open each weekday during term time only. On a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, it opens from 9am to 1pm and on a Thursday it opens from 9am to 4pm. The pre-school employs five staff, three of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The manager holds a relevant qualification at level 4.

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