

St Hugh's Pre-School Play Centre



St. Hughs Church Hall, Harewood Crescent, North Hykeham, Lincoln, LN6 8JG

Inspection date	21 June 2017
Previous inspection date	19 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 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

- The manager identifies ongoing improvements to the pre-school through speaking to staff and gathering feedback from parents and children. This helps her to improve the already good outcomes for children.
- Children learn about healthy foods. Staff play board games with them to help them identify healthy and unhealthy foods.
- Staff use precise observations of children's learning to plan for what they need to learn next. Children make good progress.
- Children know the routines of the day. They quickly sit on the carpet when staff shake a tambourine and are keen to join in group activities. Staff plan learning opportunities for the different ages of children. This is particularly effective for two-year-old children.
- Staff are good role models. They provide children with a calm and relaxed environment. Staff work with parents to provide a consistent approach to managing children's behaviour. Children behave well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not fully involve parents in identifying the starting points for their child's learning to help inform their initial assessments.
- The monitoring of staff performance is not sharply focused on raising the quality of teaching to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gather more detailed information about children's prior learning from parents to help key persons inform the assessment of children's starting points
- sharpen the focus on performance management so that staff have more opportunities to build on their practice in order to raise the quality of teaching to an outstanding level.

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 pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Hayley Ruane

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The managers monitor their staff by working alongside them. They identify the progress made by individual and groups of children. This helps them to speak to staff about how they can continue to support children's good progress. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are alert to visitors arriving at the setting and risk assess areas before children arrive to ensure that hazards are minimised. Staff discuss child protection at staff meetings and they talk about changes in legislation. They complete the progress check for children aged between two and three years and share this with parents. Staff provide parents with information about their child's achievements in the pre-school and how to continue to support their next steps in learning at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know children well and support their learning and development. Children develop good mathematical skills. Staff count the number of children present and ask children what numbers they need to make eighteen. Children say, 'One and eight'. Staff provide opportunities for children to develop their literacy skills. They read children stories and encourage them to join in with rhyming words and to finish sentences in the story. This helps children to know how stories are structured. Staff help children to develop their early writing skills outside. Children use brushes and paint on large paper to make lines and circle shapes. Children demonstrate good listening skills and learn how to tap out the syllables in children's names.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide children with opportunities to play outside and give them appropriate shade from the sun. They ensure that children wear sun hats to promote their safety. Children join in with action movements to music. They march, clap and stamp their feet, developing their physical skills. Staff provide children with a range of healthy snacks. Children serve themselves and use knives to butter bread, developing their independence. Children are confident to move around the setting, selecting toys and resources to support their interests. They have strong emotional attachments with their key person and openly go to them for reassurance if they are upset when they arrive.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those in receipt of funding, make good progress. They are confident and keen to engage in learning. Older children learn key skills in readiness for their move on to school. They complete programs on a computer, developing their understanding of technology. Children use their hands to manipulate dough, developing their physical skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	253570
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	1090350
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	32
Name of registered person	St Hugh's Pre-School Play Centre Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP525386
Date of previous inspection	19 January 2015
Telephone number	07804451594

St Hugh's Pre-School Play Centre registered in 1984 and operates from North Hykeham, Lincoln. The pre-school employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school opens on Monday and Wednesday from 9.10am until 3.10pm, and on Tuesday and Thursday from 9.10am until 12.10pm, during term time. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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