

St Jude's Church Pre-School



St Judes Church, Lower Hall, Beaumont Road, Plymouth, PL4 9BJ

Inspection date	28 September 2017
Previous inspection date	28 March 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

- Leadership and management are effective. The manager has a strong understanding of how children learn and develop. She provides children with specific learning activities to take home, to help meet their individual needs.
- Children make good progress in preparation for their future learning and move to school. They learn to match objects to letters of the alphabet, and develop number recognition during snack preparation.
- Children learn about diversity and enjoy visits from other professionals, such as the church vicar. This helps them learn about people within the local community.
- There are good links between children's home and school that successfully support children's emotional well-being. Activities support children's feelings and help them explore their worries, such as through technology. This helps children feel safe and secure in their environment.
- Staff follow effective care practices to meet children's needs. For example, they help children manage their personal needs and provide children with reassurance.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff do not question children effectively, to help them connect ideas and develop their understanding further.
- Occasionally, staff do not consistently help children to develop their early reading and writing skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support staff to ask questions that challenge all children, to help children to connect ideas and extend their understanding further
- ensure staff support children's early reading and writing skills more consistently, to encourage them to write independently from left to right.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching inside and outside.
- The inspector spoke to parents, childminders and children, to seek their views on the provision.
- The inspector held an interview with the manager, discussing matters relating to leadership and management.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including staff's qualifications and suitability checks, children's assessment records and the setting's self-evaluation process.

Inspector

Joanne Steward

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager is highly qualified and uses her well-developed knowledge to support staff well. She provides staff with structured supervisions and in-house training to extend their knowledge, for example, around the areas of learning. This has helped staff to develop children's understanding of the world more effectively. The manager monitors children's progress well. She has a robust assessment process to ensure all children make good progress. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and her staff have a strong understanding of the welfare procedures and use these well to ensure children remain safe from harm. The manager is passionate about improving practice for children and uses self-evaluation effectively. For example, she has identified the need to improve staff's understanding of the observation process further, particularly around technology.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Parents share good information about their children when they start. This helps staff plan stimulating activities that meet the needs and interests of all children. For example, older children learn how to mix colours. Younger children enjoy making prints using bricks, helping to develop their creativity well. All children enjoy re-telling a familiar story using puppets and resources. This supports their imagination and language skills well. Staff provide good opportunities for younger children to enjoy finding hidden numbers in the garden. Older children identify how many plates and cups they will need during snack time. This helps to develop good mathematical skills, in preparation for their next stage of learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff carry out home visits and provide parents with age-appropriate booklets about the pre-school, to help children settle well when they first attend. Children share their views on staff and resources, such as through 'child evaluations', helping them to feel valued. Staff support children's achievements well. For example, children are encouraged to place their names on the achievement board, helping to support their good self-esteem. Children's behaviour is good. They pass snack around the table to each other and are polite and courteous. Children enjoy growing vegetables in the garden and use these to make soup with staff, supporting their good understanding of where food comes from.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident and motivated learners. Older children learn about different people and their homes, such as the Inuit and igloos, and construct these using clay. Younger children learn about different features in their environment and make collage trees. This helps them to develop an effective understanding of the world around them. Children make good progress in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY466480
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	1069571
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	26
Number of children on roll	37
Name of registered person	The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastic Parish of St Jude, Plymouth
Registered person unique reference number	RP911470
Date of previous inspection	28 March 2014
Telephone number	01752 222092

St Jude's Church Pre-School re-registered in 2013 and operates from a separate building on the premises of St Jude's Church in Plymouth, Devon. The pre-school is open each weekday from 8.45am to 3pm, term time only. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The pre-school employs 10 members of staff. The manager holds a Master's Degree in Education and nine other staff hold qualifications in childcare from level 3 to level 6.

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