

St Mary's Pre School

St. Mary's Church Hall, 63 St. Mary's Road, Peckham, London, SE15 2EA



Inspection date	29 September 2017
Previous inspection date	18 May 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

- Staff provide a nurturing environment where children are happy, confident and very settled. Children eagerly take part in a wide variety of activities. They make choices and think creatively as they discover and play.
- Staff work hard to quickly foster secure relationships with children. This helps them to feel supported, motivating them to explore and discover their likes and dislikes in an enabling environment.
- Staff monitor children's progress accurately. They provide challenging activities that ensure all children make good progress.
- Children's behaviour is very good. Staff have high expectations and give clear praise to help children understand what is expected of them.
- The manager monitors the quality of the provision thoroughly and makes changes when appropriate. Parents' views are gathered to make further improvements.
- Staff take positive steps to increase children's readiness for school and the next stage of learning. They help children gain independence and confidence during activities and exploration.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff occasionally miss opportunities to support children when exploring their preferences during activities.
- Staff do not consistently maximise all opportunities to help children understand the importance of appropriate hygiene routines.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the already good learning environment, to consistently support children's requests to explore different activities
- consider ways to further enhance children's understanding of appropriate hygiene routines.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children during activities inside and in the garden.
- The inspector spoke with staff, children and parents during the inspection.
- The inspector jointly observed an activity with the manager and discussed these observations.
- The inspector sampled documents, including the safeguarding policy, staff records and children's records.
- The inspector spoke with parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Acima Hosein

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective and the manager has a strong understanding of her role and responsibilities. The manager monitors children's progress regularly, this helps to ensure that all children make good progress. Any weaknesses are quickly identified. Effective partnerships with outside agencies are in place to help support children who need it. Staff regularly update their training. This has a positive effect on the quality of teaching and improves outcomes for children. For example, staff plan more activities that encourage children's physical development as a result of recent training. The setting develops positive partnerships with parents who speak highly of the setting and their children's progress. Additionally, partnerships have been developed with schools to support children in their transition to the next stage in their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children's language well, encouraging them to talk about what they are doing and asking questions that make them think, such as what else smells like the scented play dough they are exploring. A wide range of experiences are offered for children to explore. Children confidently offer suggestions and staff listen to and value their ideas. For example, children are praised as they correct staff who name some dinosaurs incorrectly. Children are very observant and delight in the world around them. For example, while playing outside, children recognise different sounds, such as birds and a motorcycle. Staff plan activities that support children's early literacy and mathematical skills well. For example, distinguishing different sounds when exploring photographs. Children count and compare during adult-led activities and gain skills to work together and take turns effectively.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are very happy and demonstrate that they feel very secure and comfortable with the staff, with whom they build strong relationships. The staff work well with parents to understand each child's needs. Children's behaviour is excellent. The calm approach, praise and good role modelling of staff help children understand rules. Staff support children well in learning how to keep themselves safe. They develop a good awareness of the importance of a healthy diet. For example, they choose fruit and vegetables during breakfast and snack time, and discuss why it is important to eat lots of healthy food and how it helps their bones and teeth as they grow.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain skills that prepare them well for starting school. Children talk confidently with adults and each other and demonstrate that they are keen to learn. They become more independent as they try to do things for themselves and develop good skills for the future, such as playing together and using the toilet independently.

Setting details

Unique reference number	107637
Local authority	Southwark
Inspection number	1089014
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	22
Name of registered person	St Marys Playgroup (Southwark and Lewisham) Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP517592
Date of previous inspection	18 May 2015
Telephone number	020 7277 6255

St Mary's Pre School registered in 1994. The pre-school opens five days a week during school term times, from 9am until 12.15pm. The pre-school employs five members of staff, all of whom, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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