

St Nicholas Pre-School

St Nicholas Church Hall, Church Road, Whitchurch, Bristol, BS14 0PR



Inspection date	19 October 2017
Previous inspection date	10 December 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

- Staff provide a wide range of learning opportunities that take into account children's interests. They successfully assess and monitor all children's progress. Children make good progress in their learning.
- Children develop good communication and language skills. They engage confidently in conversations with known and unfamiliar adults. Children behave well and cooperate with others during their play, which helps them to build positive relationships.
- Managers and staff develop strong relationships with parents and involve them well in their children's learning. Staff encourage parents to share their children's development and experiences from home.
- Managers reflect effectively on their practice to make improvements. They take into account the views of parents and make changes. For example, they have introduced a new way to share information with parents about the pre-school's daily activities.
- Staff establish good relationships with local schools and emotionally prepare children for school. For example, they take children to visit the local school before they start and encourage teachers to visit the children at the pre-school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The managers do not ensure that staff maximise learning opportunities outdoors, to enhance children's learning to explore and engage more.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities and staff support for children who prefer to learn outdoors to engage and explore.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with one of the managers.
- The inspector spoke to the managers, staff, children and parents, and took account of their views.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation, including children's records, planning and assessment.
- The inspector observed activities and staff interactions with children.

Inspector

Linda Harvey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Managers and staff know the procedures to follow if they have concerns about children's welfare. Managers have developed extremely strong links with local schools. They have worked with teachers to identify skills the schools want children to have before starting, and have shared this information with parents. Staff, teachers and parents have attended training together to support a consistent approach to meeting children's needs. Staff have one-to-one meetings with the managers and are committed to continuing their professional development. They talk confidently about the impact training has on children's outcomes. The managers have effective recruitment, induction and support processes. They observe staff practice and provide coaching and support as identified. Managers use additional funding effectively to support children's needs. For example, they provide a professional physical education trainer to support children's physical development and encourage good social skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children well. They use assessments of what children can do and share this information with parents daily and at regular meetings. Staff use their knowledge of children's interests to provide a large range of challenging activities and experiences. Children try out different techniques, attempting challenges confidently. For example, they noticed staff had put sticky name tag labels onto their tops and decided to create their own labels. Staff respond positively to children's emerging interests and support them as they explore a variety of art and craft materials. Children show determination as they develop good coordination skills. Children learn to use technology to extend their learning. For example, children confidently access a laptop, select a program and take part in a learning activity. Staff provide interesting learning opportunities that develop children's early mathematical skills. For example, they use a puppet to interact with children and encourage their awareness of numbers.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well and understand what staff expect of them. Children have great confidence in shared situations and develop good social skills. For example, they are keen to talk about recent experiences and wait patiently for their turn. Children learn to share resources, enjoy social mealtimes and play with other children. Children are proud to take turns as the 'daily monitor' and help staff during the organisation of routines. Older children confidently take care of their own self-care needs, such as using the toilet.

Outcomes for children are good

Children's self-confidence and independence are developing well. Children are engaged in activities that support their interests well. They show determination and positive attitudes to learning. Children receive effective support to develop and prepare them for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	155709
Local authority	Bath & NE Somerset
Inspection number	1070385
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	3 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	31
Name of registered person	St Nicholas Pre-School Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP907575
Date of previous inspection	10 December 2014
Telephone number	07759 381610

St Nicholas Pre-School registered in 2001. It is located in Whitchurch, Bristol. The pre-school is open term time only. Sessions run from 9am to midday on Monday to Friday and from 12.30pm to 3pm on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The pre-school provides an optional lunch session from 12.30pm to 1pm each day. The pre-school employs seven staff. Of these, five hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 3 and two hold a childcare qualification at level 2. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged three and four years old.

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