

English Martyrs Pre-School

English Martyrs Church Hall, 64 Liebenrood Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG30 2EB



Inspection date

6 November 2017

Previous inspection date

9 March 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

- Leaders are skilled at swiftly identifying children's individual requirements, especially those who have special educational needs. Staff are dedicated to working with other professionals and parents to gain extra support for children. For example, staff incorporate recommendations from professionals into next steps to provide consistency for children.
- Staff effectively communicate with children and model new vocabulary well. They successfully ask questions which help to develop children's problem-solving skills and to express their thoughts and feelings.
- Children gain strong independence skills. For instance, children learn to peel and chop their own fruit at snack time and sharpen pencils when mark making.
- Children, including those who speak English as an additional language, are well prepared for the next stages in their learning and make good progress from their starting points.
- Children form strong relationships with staff members and the key-person system works effectively. Overall staff have good knowledge of children and their personal interests.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There are sometimes few opportunities for children to see and explore a variety of print in the environment to help extend their early literacy skills.
- Staff do not consistently provide resources to provoke children's interests or encourage them to try new experiences independently.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities for children to explore print within the environment
- extend children's opportunities to explore a wide variety of resources and activities to provoke their interests and stimulate new hobbies.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager, and observed the quality of teaching and interactions with children.
- The inspector spoke to staff and held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including staff and children's records, policies and procedures, and evidence of staff suitability to work with children.
- The inspector observed and interacted with the children, in the inside and outside environment.

Inspector

Kayleigh Fletcher

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager has a good understanding of her role and responsibilities and is dedicated to driving progress within the setting. Staff have a strong understanding of signs which could indicate a concern about children's well-being. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have developed effective ways to evaluate the quality of the pre-school. They seek the views of parents and children to help identify priorities for improvements. For example, parents complete a questionnaire and attend open mornings where they can make suggestions about the pre-school. The manager supports staff to enhance their professional development. For instance, staff reflect on training courses they attend and share information with colleagues to generate new ideas to benefit the children. The manager also has successful strategies for ensuring staff remain suitable to work with children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff develop effective relationships with parents and involve them well in children's learning. For instance, staff provide information leaflets for parents about how they plan activities. Staff also invite parents into the setting to provide workshops for children, such as about the role of the police. Children learn about the world around them and to be respectful of different cultures and religions. For example, parents visit the setting dressed in traditional clothing from their cultures and bring in food for children to try. Staff involve parents in assessments of their children and have developed successful strategies to monitor children's progress. Children enjoy group times where they take part in singing and stories. Staff support them to develop listening and concentration skills to prepare them for school. Children's emotional well-being is successfully supported to help them prepare for the next stages in their learning. For instance, staff take children on the bus to visit their new school and dress up in their new uniforms.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Overall, children behave well and staff support children to understand their expectations. Children begin to understand how to share and take turns. For example, staff and children consistently use a 'five minute' strategy if they want to use a resource. Staff support children to understand their emotions, for example, through the use of posters which depict different emotions and dolls. Children's emotional well-being is effectively supported. For instance, they have photographs of their family within the setting that they can access.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are motivated, happy and confident learners. They gain new skills in preparation for their next stages in learning. Children gain strong communication skills and develop physical skills, such as controlling pencils and hand-to-eye coordination. Children develop an investigative nature and exploratory skills, such as in the bug hotel and digging area.

Setting details

Unique reference number	116837
Local authority	Reading
Inspection number	1089164
Type of provision	Full-time 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	35
Name of registered person	English Martyrs Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP518110
Date of previous inspection	9 March 2015
Telephone number	0118 9593121

English Martyrs Pre-School registered in 1972. The setting is open from 9am to 3.30pm on Monday to Friday, during school term time only. The setting employs 11 members of staff, six of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 3. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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