

St. Andrew's Pre-School

St. Andrews Church, Lynford Gardens, Edgware, Middlesex, HA8 8TZ



Inspection date

15 November 2017

Previous inspection date

7 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

- Staff offer a welcoming and inclusive learning environment. They give children praise and reassurance as they learn new skills. Children settle readily and feel safe and secure. Their behaviour is good.
- Staff know how children learn and develop. Children make good progress in relation to what they knew before. Children who have special educational needs (SEN) or are learning English as an additional language equally make good gains. Staff prepare children well for the next stages of their learning and development, including the move to school.
- Staff provide a range of activities and materials to help children learn about different people and their communities. For example, children visit places in the local community, learn about different festivals and try food from different countries.
- Staff keep parents fully informed about their children's academic progress and well-being. Parents know how to support their children's learning in the nursery and beyond.
- Managers regularly monitor and evaluate the quality of the provision to ensure that staff meet children's care and needs effectively.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not provide enough challenges to fully extend older children's mathematical skills and to solve problems independently.
- At times, staff introduce new activities quickly to children and do not give them enough time to complete their self-chosen tasks to deepen their learning further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide higher levels of challenge to help older children to develop their mathematical skills and the ability to solve problems independently
- allow children enough time to explore their own activities to support their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in all parts of the pre-school, including the outdoor provision.
- The inspector spoke to some members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held meetings with the management team.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection and reviewed parents' written comments and suggestions.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and the setting's policies and procedures, including those related to the suitability of staff.

Inspector

Fatiha Maitland

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The provider uses robust recruitment procedures to ensure that staff are suitable for the role. Staff have a good understanding of safeguarding practices to protect children. The manager and staff check the progress of all children and groups effectively. When identifying gaps in children's learning, they provide extra support to help them catch up. The manager observes staff and sets them reasonable targets to help strengthen their skills. Staff attend training regularly to improve the quality of their practice. For example, they organise group activities carefully to ensure that all children remain engaged and learn well. They work well with outside professionals and providers to help children receive the support they need. The manager takes into account the views of staff, parents and others to continually improve outcomes for all children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff gather relevant information from parents and use their ongoing observations to establish children's starting points in their learning. They plan and provide a range of exciting activities to enthuse children to learn. Staff help children explore resources safely. Children are well motivated and interested to learn. For example, they explore different paint colours and observe the changes that happen to colours when they mix. Children create imaginative pictures and confidently express their thoughts about what they have made. They eagerly join in songs and rhymes, and dance to music. Staff read books with children. Children act out their favourite part of the story and talk about their favourite characters and events. Staff hold discussions with children and act on their suggestions to support their speaking and listening skills effectively.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff form positive relationships with children and support their social and emotional skills well. Children learn to share toys fairly and take turns. Staff help children adopt healthy attitudes. For instance, children know that porridge and milk are good for them. They have regular fresh air and engage well in outdoor activities. For example, they manoeuvre bicycles and scooters safely and coordinate well on the balancing beam. Staff conduct regular and thorough checks on outings, the premises and resources to minimise risks. They provide clear guidance to children about how to play safely.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress and any gaps in their learning are closing. Young children make friends to play with and respond well to requests. Older children recognise letter sounds and write their names correctly. Children know about the different seasons and are aware of the changes that happen to the weather around them. They are confident to talk about past and present events in their lives.

Setting details

Unique reference number	147619
Local authority	Barnet
Inspection number	1068543
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	24
Name of registered person	St Andrew's Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP523811
Date of previous inspection	7 March 2014
Telephone number	0208 9581279

St Andrew's Pre-School registered in 1992. It is situated in Edgware in the London Borough of Barnet. The pre-school operates during term time, from 8.15am to 2.45pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and from 8.15am to 1.30pm on Wednesdays. The provider receives funding to offer free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are seven members of staff, one of whom holds early years professional status. The remaining six staff have relevant qualifications, ranging from level 2 to 6.

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