

St. Weonards Preschool

St. Weonards Preschool, Mount Way, St. Weonards, Hereford, Herefordshire, HR2 8NU



Inspection date 30 November 2017
Previous inspection date 12 June 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

- The environment is well organised, clean and welcoming. Children independently access a wide range of resources and interesting play activities. They are happy and enjoy their time at the pre-school. Children are motivated to play, explore and learn.
- Good settling-in procedures help to ensure that children are ready for the move from home to pre-school. Children form close and caring relationships with the kind and helpful staff. This helps them to feel settled and supports their emotional well-being.
- Children behave well. They are well mannered and learn to share and take turns. Staff are good role models. They speak to children in a calm and respectful manner.
- Children are developing good communication and language skills. They are confident and articulate during their play and interactions with staff and visitors.
- Staff work closely with parents, the local school and other professionals. This makes a strong contribution to meeting children's individual needs. Parents praise the staff for nurturing their children and providing them with a safe and stimulating environment with a home-from-home feel.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The management committee does not consistently monitor the quality of the provision at the highest level to swiftly identify where improvements are needed.
- Staff's professional development is not sufficiently focused on raising the quality of teaching even further, to help promote children's attainment to an outstanding level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use self-evaluation even more effectively to monitor the quality of the setting and help identify where improvements can be made
- strengthen performance management to focus even more precisely on enhancing the quality of teaching to an outstanding level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises and observed children engaged in a variety of learning experiences indoors and outside.
- The inspector observed and evaluated a learning activity with the deputy manager.
- The inspector viewed evidence of the suitability of staff working at the pre-school.
- The inspector talked to the team about their priorities for improvement.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She also took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Tina Smith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Daily safety checks are carried out before children arrive to make sure the environment is safe and secure. A good range of training has been completed to promote safeguarding within the pre-school. This means that staff are clear about the procedures to follow in the event of a concern about a child. Effective procedures for recruitment and to check the ongoing suitability of staff are implemented well. Records accurately reflect details of any accidents or incidents involving children. Regular supervision meetings for staff enable the management team to identify training and development opportunities and discuss how they can enhance the experiences offered to children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children very well. They encourage parents to share information about their children's learning and development at home. Children are provided with a wide range of enjoyable activities that follows their interests and keeps them engaged and motivated. Their individual progress is checked to identify any gaps in their learning and development. This ensures children receive any additional support they may need. Children are focused and show high levels of concentration as they mould clay. They think and predict as they carefully roll the clay to make shapes. Children delight in playing with small figures. They use their imagination and build a narrative into their play. Children think and share ideas as they pretend to cook in the outdoor kitchen.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The pre-school is located within the school. Children are invited to attend school events and regularly visit the Reception class. In addition, they eat lunch in the school hall with the older children. Consequently, children are familiar with their surroundings and display a strong sense of belonging. Children's health and physical development are promoted effectively. They enjoy nutritious snacks and well-balanced meals. Staff teach children about the importance of good hygiene. For example, they explain why it is important to wash their hands before meals. Children have lots of opportunities to be physically active and play outside in the fresh air. They excitedly use ride-on toys and enthusiastically climb, run and jump. Children eagerly feed the birds. They develop good social interactions, visiting places of interest and taking part in community activities.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress and acquire the key skills they need in preparation for school. They are confident and independently manage their self-care. Children show sustained levels of concentration and make choices about what they want to do. They behave well and are aware of what is expected of them. Children learn about quantity and measure as they fill and empty different sized containers with water. They listen attentively to stories and sing rhymes. Children are beginning to recognise their name, enjoy giving meaning to the marks they make and confidently count during their play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	960036
Local authority	Herefordshire
Inspection number	1091242
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	1 - 4
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	7
Name of registered person	St. Weonards and District Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP904782
Date of previous inspection	12 June 2015
Telephone number	07855550108

St Weonards Preschool registered in 1976. The pre-school employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one holds early years professional status. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday from 8.45am until 4.15pm during term time and have limited opening hours during school holidays. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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