

St Andrews Preschool

The Mess, The Street, North Lopham, Diss, Norfolk, IP22 2LR



Inspection date	14 December 2017
Previous inspection date	2 October 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

- The manager, committee members and staff demonstrate a secure knowledge and understanding of the requirements of the early years foundation stage and how to implement them.
- The pre-school is well established within the community. Parents speak positively about the care and education their children receive.
- Children behave well. Staff provide children with clear boundaries so they know what is expected of them. They praise children for their achievements, helping to raise their self-esteem.
- Staff have good relationships with the local school. Teachers are invited to visit the children at pre-school. Information is shared with the school before children start, to ensure continuity of learning and care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always fully promote children's creativity, imagination, flair and opportunity to independently extend their own ideas.
- The manager does not consistently analyse the development of different groups of children, to monitor their progress.
- On occasions, staff do not carefully consider and plan activities as effectively as possible, to ensure that all children are sufficiently challenged and highly engaged.

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 for children to develop their creativity, imagination and independent learning
- strengthen the arrangements for comparing the progress made by different groups of children and checking that all groups receive the support they need to maintain their good progress
- plan activities more effectively to ensure children are consistently challenged and highly engaged.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with committee members, the manager, staff and children.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector spoke to parents on the day and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.

Inspector

Ruth Patel

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All staff attend regular training and have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities to meet children's needs should there be a child protection concern. They regularly risk assess the setting to help keep children safe. Staff are continually deployed well so that children are always supervised. The committee and manager follow effective procedures when recruiting and vetting staff to ensure that they are suitable to work with children. The management team has an effective programme of supervision and professional development and all staff are qualified. This has a positive impact on outcomes for children and helps staff keep their knowledge and skills up to date.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff regularly observe and assess children's learning and, overall, plan activities that meet their individual needs. Staff promote children's communication and language well. They engage children in conversations and model the good use of language. Visual timetables are used to further support younger children to understand the pre-school routines. Staff successfully follow and build on children's spontaneous interests that arise during the session. For example, children set up a sleigh for Father Christmas and pretend to deliver presents to their friends. Staff encourage children to persevere with tricky tasks, such as completing puzzles and building train tracks.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are good role models. They have a lovely rapport with the children and speak to them in a respectful manner. Staff use meaningful praise throughout the day. Children are encouraged to share and take turns. They learn how to manage their own behaviours and understand the needs of others. The effective key-person system ensures staff provide good continuity of care and teaching. Children are well settled, happy and have warm relationships with all staff. Staff teach children the importance of healthy lifestyles. They sit and eat lunch with the children as part of helping them to develop their social skills. Children are physically active and enjoy their play outdoors. They thoroughly enjoy climbing and balancing, and engaging in running games.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those for whom the setting is in receipt of funding, make good progress in their learning. Children's developing literacy skills are well supported. They find their name cards to self-register and learn to recognise the initial letter sounds in their names. Children learn to make marks, and enjoy listening to stories and sharing books. They recognise numbers, count and compare size and weight. Children are learning skills that help to prepare them for the next stage in their learning and the eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	254195
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	1103342
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	18
Number of children on roll	10
Name of registered person	St Andrews Preschool Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP910056
Date of previous inspection	2 October 2014
Telephone number	01379 687253

St Andrews Preschool registered in 1992. The pre-school employs three members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2 and 3. The nursery opens on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday during term time only. Sessions are from 8.45am until 3.15pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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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