

St Annes Preschool

St. Annes Road, Canvey Island, Essex, SS8 7LS



Inspection date	16 May 2018
Previous inspection date	25 May 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 and her dedicated staff team have worked meticulously to address the actions and recommendations set at the previous inspection. They have focused on improving standards and driving the quality higher.
- The manager and staff work very closely with parents and other agencies to provide consistency of care and learning. Information is shared regularly and parents are kept updated about their children's development. This is done in a variety of ways, such as through daily discussions, parents' meetings and regular reports. Parents comment positively about the pre-school.
- Staff are well qualified and receive regular training and support. Some targeted training, such as engaging boys in mark making, is having a positive impact on children's literacy skills.
- The manager analyses the progress of individual children and groups. She uses this information to improve experiences and help children make even better progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The organisation of some activities does not help staff to encourage children to be independent and provide opportunities for them to make greater choices and follow their interests.
- Staff do not consistently provide enough opportunities for most-able children to link sounds to letters and build on their good literacy skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of the provision more precisely so that all children's interests are considered and planned for with even greater success
- strengthen opportunities for most-able children to learn to link sounds and letters to further enhance their good literacy skills.

Inspection activities

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

Inspector

Tina Mason

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff have a robust knowledge of the procedures to follow should they have concerns about children's welfare. Regular checks on staff help to ensure their continued suitability. The manager has strict procedures in place for children entering and leaving the premises. These also include the safe movement of children between the pre-school building and the outdoor play space. The manager and staff use supervisory meetings to accurately determine their professional development needs and build effectively on their experience and qualifications to benefit children. The manager precisely targets the use and impact of additional funding so that children are able to make good progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff recognise the uniqueness of each child and consistently use good teaching skills. Staff take time to build strong partnerships with parents and this helps to engage them in their child's learning and development, both at the pre-school and at home. Staff make regular checks on children's progress. They use these well to identify how to support children to move on to the next stage in their learning. Staff have high expectations of children. They question and listen to children effectively and demonstrate and model play and learning well. This helps to engage children for longer periods and extend their learning. Staff recognise good opportunities for promoting mathematical development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have a strong sense of belonging and are emotionally secure. They are happy, settled and enter the pre-school confidently, benefiting on arrival from the enthusiastic and welcoming staff. Children develop very good risk assessment skills as they navigate around obstacles and show good control of their bodies, being careful not to bump into each other when running around the outside play area. They develop a good awareness of healthy lifestyles. Children enjoy a healthy snack menu. Staff encourage conversations about the importance of a healthy diet as they sit and chat with the children at snack time.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, thoroughly enjoy learning. They make good progress from the time they start at pre-school. They enjoy a variety of activities that inspires them and helps to prepare them for school. For example, boys seek writing resources in their play and make marks in an exciting range of ways which helps to develop their emerging writing skills. Children demonstrate wonderful imaginations as they work together and introduce storylines into their role play. Children are consistently well behaved and respond well to praise from staff for their cooperative play and good manners.

Setting details

Unique reference number	203473
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1100542
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	Angela Jocelyn Fordham
Registered person unique reference number	RP513303
Date of previous inspection	25 May 2017
Telephone number	01268 680143

St Annes Preschool registered in 1978. The pre-school employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2, 3 or 4. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9am to 12pm on Monday, 9am to 1pm on Tuesday to Thursday, and 8.45am to 2.45pm on Friday. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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