

# St Sebastians Preschool

St. Sebastians Church Hall, Nine Mile Ride, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG40 3AT



## Inspection date

6 June 2018

Previous inspection date

13 July 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Inadequate	4
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Inadequate	4

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is inadequate

- The managers do not maintain and implement a safeguarding policy in line with the guidance of the Local Safeguarding Children Board. Staff safeguarding knowledge is not sufficient. They are unaware of the procedures to follow if they are concerned about children or in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff.
- Risk assessments are ineffective. The managers and staff fail to recognise and minimise risks in the environment, which places children at significant risk of harm.
- Staff are not deployed effectively to ensure that children are adequately supervised. This significantly compromises children's safety and well-being.
- Arrangements for the support and supervision of staff are not effective. The managers do not review staff performance or identify and act on training and development needs.
- The managers and staff do not accurately assess children's starting points when they begin attending the pre-school. As a result, staff do not support children's learning and development well enough from the outset.
- The quality of teaching is poor. Staff do not use assessments effectively to identify where children are in their learning, and tailor activities to meet their individual learning needs. Parents are not always able to access information about children's development. Children do not make sufficient progress in their development.

### It has the following strengths

- Staff provide children with daily opportunities for fresh air outdoors and for exercise.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

### The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action

We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:

	Due Date
■ implement and maintain a safeguarding policy and procedure in line with the guidance of the Local Safeguarding Children Board, and ensure that staff understand the action to take when there are safeguarding concerns about a child, or in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff	06/07/2018
■ take all reasonable steps to make sure children are not exposed to risks to their safety; in particular in relation to the door to the garden, use of the trampoline, and the storage of chemicals and sprays	06/07/2018
■ ensure that all staff are deployed effectively so that children are adequately supervised and their safety and well-being is met	06/07/2018
■ implement appropriate arrangements for the supervision of staff to ensure they understand the responsibilities of their roles, particularly with regard to safeguarding children, and to ensure they deliver good-quality teaching and learning experiences for children.	06/07/2018

### To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage the provider must:

	Due Date
■ ensure that staff accurately assess children's starting points and use this information to shape children's learning experiences from the outset	06/07/2018
■ ensure that staff regularly complete accurate assessments to maintain a clear picture of the progress each child makes, share this information with parents consistently, and use it effectively to plan suitably challenging experiences that help children to make the best possible progress in their learning.	06/07/2018

## **Inspection activities**

- The inspector observed the activities and learning experiences available to children.
- The inspector observed interactions between children and staff.
- The inspector asked staff questions about their work and observed practice with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to some parents about their views and opinions of the provision and considered these.
- The inspector sampled relevant documentation.

## **Inspector**

Claire Boparai

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Self-evaluation is weak. The manager fails to identify and address weaknesses in staff practice that put children at significant risk. Safeguarding is ineffective. For example, the manager and staff have a limited understanding about safeguarding procedures and the relevant professionals with whom to liaise to protect children. This means that children's safety cannot be assured. Staff practice compromises children's welfare and puts them at risk of serious injury. For example, staff do not follow manufacturing guidelines for the trampoline when they allow large groups of children to use it at the same time. Children are left outside without adult supervision for up to ten minutes at a time including when using climbing frames. Risk assessments are ineffective. The manager and staff fail to recognise and minimise risks in the environment, which places children at significant risk of harm. For example, an aerosol can is left within children's reach in the bathroom that children use independently. In addition, the manager has failed to recognise the risks to children's safety posed by the garden door. Unsupervised by staff, children slam this door shut and narrowly avoid trapping their fingers.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is inadequate

Teaching is poor. Staff do not gather enough information about children's needs, interests and prior learning when they first start attending. Although staff make observations of children's learning, they do not use information gained from this to build on what children know and can do. Parents know they are able to look at records kept online by staff about their children's learning, but these records are not always accessible to all parents. Staff interactions with children do not support them to engage in their learning. For example, children's learning is disrupted when staff leave in the middle of activities to complete chores. Managers do not coach, train and support staff effectively. They do not support staff to develop their teaching skills so that they know how to extend activities for children who require further challenge to improve their learning. For example, when children ask questions about how vegetables grow, staff either do not answer or tell them they are not sure. They do not use the opportunity to teach children about how or where to find out the answers to their questions.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Weaknesses in leadership, management and staff practice place children's safety and welfare at significant risk. Staff generally watch children and offer little encouragement to extend their learning. For example, staff take hoops away from children who are finding it hard to roll them. They do not encourage them to practise and develop this aspect of their physical skills and they tell them they cannot do it. This does not support children's sense of self-esteem or emotional well-being as they attempt new things. Children wander around aimlessly at times, looking for things to do. Not all children are sufficiently motivated to explore and they sometimes display behaviour that can put them at risk, such as repeatedly running around inside and climbing up slides the wrong way, which compromises their safety.

### **Outcomes for children are inadequate**

Children do not make good enough progress. During the inspection, children wandered aimlessly at times, with little support from staff, and less-confident children were not encouraged to join in with group times. Children are not well prepared for their next stage in learning or for starting school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	148683
<b>Local authority</b>	Wokingham
<b>Inspection number</b>	1127223
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	21
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	33
<b>Name of registered person</b>	St Sebastians Pre School Committee
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP907772
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	13 July 2015
<b>Telephone number</b>	01344 775835

St Sebastian's Preschool registered in 1969. The pre-school opens each weekday during school term times. Sessions run from 9am to 3pm. Six members of staff work with the children, all of whom hold an appropriate childcare qualification at level 2, 3 or 6. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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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