

St Francis Pre-School

St. Francis Church Hall, Ravenswood Avenue, WEST WICKHAM, Kent, BR4 0PW



Inspection date

15 June 2018

Previous inspection date

3 July 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 make the most of opportunities to support and enhance children's independence. For example, children complete self-care tasks independently after their snack time.
- Children enjoy their time at pre-school. They settle quickly, behave well and form strong bonds with staff. They demonstrate a strong sense of belonging.
- Parent partnerships are effective and staff work closely with parents to support the children's next steps for learning.
- Staff plan a range of interesting activities to motivate children to participate and learn well through purposeful play. For example, children and staff have discussions about healthy lifestyles while pretending to make muesli in the mud kitchen.
- Leaders regularly evaluate the quality of the provision to improve practice and have recently enhanced learning opportunities for children in the outdoor area.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, although children behave well, some opportunities are missed to encourage them to demonstrate even better manners than they do already.
- Staff do not always clearly gather starting points for some children and, as a result, initial assessments do not always demonstrate clear progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- promote children's understanding of good manners and respect for others further
- clearly establish children's starting points to ensure that their early progress is accurately monitored.

Inspection activities

- The inspector invited the manager to take part in a joint observation.
- The inspector reviewed documentation to check the suitability of all individuals working on the premises.
- The inspector spoke with children and parents during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled children's assessment records and a range of other records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors.

Inspector

Louise Drewett

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff know how to identify and report concerns for children's welfare. Leaders have robust recruitment procedures in place which help to ensure that children are cared for by adults who are suitably checked and qualified. Leaders use regular supervision and provide further training to enhance the already good standard of safeguarding practices. For example, staff have recently used additional training to help them identify and address any instances of extreme views or behaviours. Overall, the manager effectively monitors the assessment of children's individual learning and supports staff well to plan for the children's next steps in learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use good teaching skills to build on what children already know. For example, children have been learning about healthy eating. Staff have extended their learning by helping them to grow fruit and vegetables in the garden. Children are enthusiastic learners and show excitement when talking about the book of the month. All children develop good mathematical skills, for instance, as they count money and recognise numerical print during role-play sessions. Children's early literacy skills are well promoted. For example, there are ample resources available for the children to make marks. Children are enthusiastic when making marks with paintbrushes and water.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff warmly welcome children when they arrive. Children enter the pre-school excited and ready to learn. Children settle quickly into the safe, comfortable and stimulating environment. Staff use their good teaching skills to remind children of the class rules during group-time activities and, overall, they promote positive behaviour at all times. Children follow well-organised routines that encourage them to show consideration for their own safety and that of their peers. Children's achievements are celebrated by all and children show real happiness when they are acknowledged at the end of the day. Children's well-being is at the heart of staff practice. Parents speak highly of the pre-school and say they feel well supported by the manager and staff.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points and are very well prepared for their transitions to school. Older children develop good social skills as they enjoy discussing their favourite foods during snack time. Their independence is fully promoted as they pour their own drinks and serve their own snacks. Younger children develop good communication and language skills. They become confident enough to initiate discussions with their peers and staff, as they roll cars through paint to make marks. All children are developing their ability to listen, maintain attention and follow instructions well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY462615
Local authority	Bromley
Inspection number	1071561
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	24
Number of children on roll	32
Name of registered person	Gillian Margaret Smith
Registered person unique reference number	RP515673
Date of previous inspection	3 July 2014
Telephone number	07582 518529

St Francis Preschool registered in 2013 and is a privately-owned setting. The pre-school operates from a church hall in a residential road in West Wickham, within the London Borough of Bromley. The nursery is open from 9am to midday each weekday and from midday to 3pm for two days each week. There are six staff currently working at the pre-school and they all have relevant childcare qualifications. The manager holds a qualification at level 6.

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