

St Mary's Pre-School (Cheshunt)

Dewhurst St. Mary Junior Middle & Infant School, 92 Churchgate, Cheshunt, WALTHAM CROSS, Hertfordshire, EN8 9ND



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

20 June 2018

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff use their observations and assessments to plan effectively for children's next steps in learning. They plan exciting activities to challenge children's thinking, help develop their ideas and to progress their learning further.
- Staff skilfully introduce new words and use questioning to support children's communication and language skills well. They gain the necessary skills to help prepare them for their future learning.
- Children's behaviour is exceptional and they show great kindness and respect towards one another. Highly stimulating activities aid them in developing a deep appreciation of diversity. Children have a deep respect for others from different cultural backgrounds.
- The leaders and staff regularly evaluate and review all areas of the pre-school. They use the views of the parents and children to identify strengths and weaknesses, to help make changes that will benefit the children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- While leaders track the achievements of individual children, they do not identify the progress made by specific groups of children.
- Leaders have not fully considered all ways to monitor staff's ongoing performance to raise the good quality of teaching to an even higher level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor the outcomes of the different groups of children more effectively and address any differences in achievement
- strengthen the procedures for monitoring staff's practice to identify and target any weaknesses in teaching and training needs.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the registered person, manager and staff, and spoke to children when it was convenient.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed staff and children in their indoor and outdoor activities.
- The inspector checked required documentation, including qualification certificates and evidence of staff's suitability.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection.

Inspector

Anahita Aderianwalla

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. There are secure recruitment procedures to check the suitability of staff. Staff know the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. They also understand how to minimise hazards so that children can play safely. Partnerships with parents are effective. Parents are well informed about their children's learning and they are happy with the care that their children receive. Staff use funding effectively to improve outcomes for children. For example, they have enhanced the activities they provide to support children's physical development. Staff work closely with the host school and relevant professionals, where necessary, to meet children's needs, including the needs of children who have special educational needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children well and have a good knowledge of how children learn. Children are encouraged to select their own play and staff follow their lead. For example, while children create models with magnetic construction bricks, staff listen carefully to their ideas. They support children to solve problems for themselves, as they consider the height and number of bricks that they have. Younger children experiment with different-coloured paints and observe the changes that happen to paint colours when they mix them. Older children use magnifying glasses, as they closely observe each stage of the caterpillars as they turn into butterflies and learn about wildlife. They gain good skills to support their understanding of the wider world.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are provided with a highly stimulating and rich programme of experiences to help them develop a love of exercise and fresh air. Children learn to explore resources safely, show extremely high levels of consideration to each other, and share toys fairly. Staff help children to gain an excellent understanding of safety in the pre-school. For example, staff have excellent routines and teach children about how to identify 'ripping risks' and 'tripping risks' as they tidy away resources in the pre-school. Children show superb confidence and practise their excellent physical skills during daily routines and self-care tasks. For instance, two-year-olds independently choose a snack they wish to eat and pour their own drinks. Furthermore, when finished, they effortlessly put away their own plates, and throw away any unwanted food in the bins without prompting.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are motivated and keen to learn. They develop good early literacy skills. For example, older children learn to recognise how their names are spelled and predict endings to their favourite stories. Children learn to concentrate, listen and follow instructions well. The outdoor environment is especially popular with boys, who show deep engagement when pretending to fill up with petrol and follow road signs, as they carefully ride around on wheeled cars. All children develop skills that will support them with the next stage of their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY500550
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1052686
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	31
Name of registered person	St Mary's Pre-School (Cheshunt) Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP901179
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01992628912

St Mary's Pre-School (Cheshunt) registered in 2016. The pre-school employs four members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 9am until midday. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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