

# St. Marks Pre-School

St. Marks Church Centre, St. Marks Road, WESTON-SUPER-MARE, Avon  
BS22 7PW



<b>Inspection date</b>	28 September 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b> <b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable

Effectiveness of 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

### The provision is good

- The manager gives guidance to staff and staff work well as a team. For example, regular team meetings help them to share information about children. The manager monitors the overall progress of all children to ensure they are progressing well.
- Parents are very complimentary about the staff and the service the pre-school offers. The key-person system works well. Staff monitor their key children and provide a wide range of activities and experiences that motivate and excite children to learn.
- Staff are calm and caring in their approach. They speak to children in a friendly and nurturing manner. Children behave well, take turns and are kind to each other. Children are confident. They engage in conversation with familiar and unfamiliar adults.
- Staff have good relationships with parents. Staff work hard to develop a two-way flow of information between themselves and parents. For example, they use regular electronic updates and daily chats to help share children's progress.
- Staff help children to develop good social skills and learn the importance of valuing each other's views and differences. They give children the skills and strategies to know how and why to share and take turns.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently manage the day-to-day routines well enough. On occasion, some children become restless and do not remain fully engaged.
- Although staff attend training, the manager does not ensure staff supervision and professional development are targeted as well as possible to raise the quality of teaching even further.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the daily routines to help all children remain fully engaged in their play and learning throughout the day
- strengthen staff supervision arrangements to focus more precisely on supporting staff to develop their teaching practice.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to staff, parents and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at samples of children's records, policies and staff's qualifications.
- The inspector held a management meeting with the manager.

#### Inspector

Linda Harvey

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager attends training to keep her knowledge and understanding up to date. She shares this information with staff. Staff understand what they have to do if they are concerned about children in their care. Staff carry out regular checks of all areas to assess risk and maintain a safe and secure environment. Staff use observations and assessment systems to track children's progress and regularly share this effectively with parents. The manager tracks the progress of all groups of children well, helping them to progress from their starting points. She identifies and targets any gaps in their development, so they do not widen. The manager has developed links with the local authority and other support groups, and uses their help and support to improve the provision and outcomes for children.

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

Staff share details of children's development effectively with each other and plan each child's next steps in learning. Staff understand how children learn and ensure they benefit from a good range of relevant activities and experiences. Staff encourage children to develop imaginative play. For example, toddlers excitedly play with dolls and rock them to sleep. Staff support children's early reading skills well. For example, staff regularly sit with children on their laps as they read books to them. Staff plan interesting learning opportunities indoors and outdoors. For example, children enjoy developing their thinking skills as they make shapes with different lengths and sizes of piping.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff offer regular praise and encouragement for children's individual achievements, to build on their confidence and self-esteem. Staff form strong relationships with their key children. Staff effectively soothe children who are upset. Children enjoy the comfort of snuggling up to staff and form strong attachments. Children learn about the natural world through activities that promote exploration. For example, they collect blackberries and use magnifying glasses to look for bugs in the outdoors.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress. Children who require additional support make good progress in their learning due to well-planned strategies that meet their specific needs. Children eagerly explore the range of activities indoors and outdoors. Indoors, children enjoy quiet times while staff read to them. Outdoors, children enjoy using the swing, slide and climbing equipment. They develop early mathematical skills well. For example, they enjoy putting shapes into order of size, and counting and matching objects.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY537705
<b>Local authority</b>	North Somerset
<b>Inspection number</b>	10076875
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional day care
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	24
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	55
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Owen, Emily Mary
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP537704
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable
<b>Telephone number</b>	07969637114

Saint Marks Pre-School registered in 2016. It is a privately owned setting, which operates from Saint Marks Church Centre in Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset. The pre-school employs seven members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 3. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 8.30am until 3:30pm.

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