

Appleton Under Fives St Bede's Pre-School

The Guild Hall, Appleton Village, Widnes, Halton WA8 6EL



Inspection date	17 October 2018
Previous inspection date	1 November 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
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

- Staff understand how children learn. They interact with children throughout their play, demonstrating, modelling and asking questions to support their developing skills.
- Children behave well. Staff are positive role models for children and help them to follow the rules and boundaries in the pre-school. They praise the children for their achievements. This helps to promote children's confidence and self-esteem.
- Staff assess children's progress accurately. They plan activities that interest children and enable them to take the next steps in their development. They work closely with other professionals to provide programmes for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- The dedicated manager monitors staff performance well. She regularly observes staff practice and holds individual supervisory meetings. Staff reflect on their own training needs and where they need additional support.
- Parents are well informed about their child's progress and how they can support learning at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager has a process for self-evaluation in place. However, it does not reflect the pre-school's current practice and high expectations to help them raise the quality of provision to a higher level.
- At times, staff do not give the children enough time to complete an activities before changing the routine and interrupting their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop a more robust self-evaluation process that reflects accurate and current views of parents, children and staff to improve the quality of the pre-school
- review and improve the organisation of changes in routine, to ensure children fully understand what is expected of them during this time and to help keep them fully engaged in learning throughout.

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 manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Lindsey Wallwork-Jones

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff demonstrate a good awareness of safeguarding and wider child protection issues. They are secure in their knowledge of how to identify and report concerns to protect children from harm. Staff use procedures, including risk assessment, to keep children safe. The manager implements robust procedures to verify the ongoing suitability of staff. She monitors the progress that children make and identifies the progress that different groups of children make. This helps her to identify areas where teaching needs to be focused to ensure that outcomes for all children are good. The manager has made good improvements since the last inspection and addressed the actions and recommendation raised at the time.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan interesting activities that extend children's knowledge well. Children enjoy making play dough, estimating the ingredients and using mathematical language, such as 'more than', 'half' and 'quarter'. Staff encourage children's communication and language skills well. For example, children draw pictures of their family and talk about who lives in their house. Children develop their interest in books and recite favourite stories and sing nursery rhymes. Staff encourage children to think of their own stories and create new endings for their favourite books.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children feel comfortable and enjoy their time in the pre-school. Parents comment on how welcome and well supported they feel and say that their children enjoy coming to the pre-school. Staff use information from parents about learning and care needs to support children when they start. For example, they follow care routines to help children settle and feel at home. Children have regular opportunities to play outside in the fresh air and exercise. For example, they swiftly climb onto the stage to play with the musical instruments. Children develop their independence and self-care skills. They enjoy carrying their trays at snack time, pouring their own drinks and choosing from the variety of healthy foods available.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in relation to their starting points. They enjoy experiences across all areas of learning. Children develop secure social skills. For example, younger children form close bonds with their key person and older children learn to take turns as they play board games. Children build very early reading and writing skills, such as sounding out letters and practising writing their names. Children prepare well for their next stages in learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	303482
Local authority	Halton
Inspection number	10079448
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	23
Name of registered person	St Bedes Pre School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP907805
Date of previous inspection	1 November 2017
Telephone number	0151 495 2749

Appleton Under Fives St Bede's Pre-School registered in 1998. The nursery employs five members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 8.30am until 3.15pm on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. On Tuesdays, sessions are from 8.45am until 11.45am. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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