

# St Matthews Pre-School

Church Hall, Stretton Road, Stretton, Warrington, Cheshire WA4 4NT



<b>Inspection date</b>	26 February 2019
Previous inspection date	27 January 2016

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b> Previous inspection:	<b>Outstanding</b> Good	<b>1</b> 2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is outstanding

- Staff establish very positive partnerships with parents and keep them extremely well informed about their children's learning from the outset. For example, parents attend settling-in meetings to ensure their child's starting points in development are accurate. Parents routinely share children's experiences from home.
- The inspirational manager has a clear vision of her setting and very high expectations of her staff and the children. She is passionate about offering children the best start in life. Furthermore, she regularly seeks the views of children, parents and staff, and uses this information to drive ongoing improvements.
- Children display high levels of positive behaviour as they form warm and caring attachments with staff and the children. Staff are excellent role models for children. Children receive plenty of praise for their efforts and they learn how to share and take care of each other.
- Children have enormous fun in this warm and friendly setting. They have many opportunities to follow their interests and lead their own play. Staff skilfully support children to extend their learning and enhance their enjoyment.
- The manager and staff team monitor and track the progress of individual and different groups of children extremely well. This enables them to identify any gaps rapidly and provide exceptional support for children to catch up quickly and continue to make rapid progress in their learning and development.
- The environment is highly stimulating and exceptionally well organised. This significantly enhances children's learning. Children access an excellent range of resources to promote all aspects of their play and learning very successfully.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue with the excellent plans to involve children in learning about the local community, to further promote children's understanding of the community outside their own experiences.

### 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 a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Lindsey Wallwork-Jones

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. All staff have an expert understanding of the procedures to follow if a child is at risk of abuse or neglect. The well-being and safety of children are at the heart of everything that the manager and her team do. Adult-to-child ratios are exceptionally well maintained to make sure that children have all the support they need. For example, staff are vigilant in monitoring children's hygiene routines. Excellent staff coaching and mentoring systems are in place to ensure consistency in the high-quality teaching throughout the pre-school. Staff embrace training with enthusiasm and strive to raise their teaching skills to the highest level. Self-evaluation and ongoing reflection are thorough. The manager has plans to continue to develop partnership working with the local community, to further promote children's understanding of the community outside their own experiences.

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

The quality of teaching is excellent. Staff rigorously notice children's interests and strive to provide further stimulating activities. For example, following children's interest in animals, they make clay hedgehogs, counting the spikes, making the hedgehog's snout and learning new words such as 'nocturnal' and 'hibernation'. Small-group activities are carefully planned to take account of each child's abilities. For example, staff deliver focused activities with their key children concentrating on particular areas of learning.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff value children's ideas and contributions. Promoting children's emotional well-being is of the utmost importance to staff. Children are involved in decision-making and regularly vote on what songs to sing or which book to read at circle time. Children's understanding of healthy lifestyles is extremely well supported. They have plenty of opportunities to exercise and develop their large-muscle skills both indoors and outdoors. Children enjoy healthy snacks. They actively discuss how fresh and healthy food gives them a healthy body. For example, children look at a ripe green banana and a brown banana that has decayed and discuss how bacteria can affect your health.

### Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress and develop the skills they need for future learning and their eventual move to school. They communicate clearly and learn to be highly sociable and confident. Children who are new to the pre-school settle well into the daily routines and demonstrate positive relationships with staff and other children. All children learn how to keep themselves safe and to manage risks in their environment. For instance, they complete daily checklists for the outdoor area. Children freely experiment in the mud kitchen, explore with binoculars and magnets, and investigate the natural world. They are very curious, inquisitive and highly motivated learners.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	315246
<b>Local authority</b>	Warrington
<b>Inspection number</b>	10066544
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	20
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	22
<b>Name of registered person</b>	St Matthew's Pre-School Group Committee
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP525765
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	27 January 2016
<b>Telephone number</b>	01925 730083

St Matthews Pre-School registered in 1989. It is managed by a committee. The pre-school opens on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9am until 3pm and on Thursday from 9am until midday. The pre-school employs six members of staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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