

St John's Pre-School

Ripley Road, Worthing, West Sussex BN11 5NQ



Inspection date	5 June 2019
Previous inspection date	27 September 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

This provision is good

- The manager and staff create a very positive and inclusive environment. They identify children who need further support quickly and work closely with outside agencies to share expertise. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities or those who receive additional funding are supported well to catch up in their learning, and make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff encourage parents to share special 'wow' moments to celebrate children's achievements from home and create positive links between home and pre-school. Children proudly listen as their achievements are read out during group time, which supports their strong sense of self-esteem and belonging.
- Caring and well-qualified staff spend plenty of time playing with children in a positive way. They build strong bonds with the children, who are very happy, settled and secure. The highly nurturing environment supports children's emotional well-being successfully.
- The manager and staff closely monitor the progress that all children make, including specific groups such as boys, girls and funded children. They spot any potential gaps in learning quickly and identify areas for further support and improvement.
- The manager has enhanced the support for staff professional development over the last year. However, she does not monitor staff performance closely enough to raise the quality of practice even further.
- Some staff do not make full use of their interactions with children to offer further challenge to the most able children and fully extend their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor staff performance more precisely and offer even further targeted support for staff to help raise the quality of their practice to the highest level
- make full use of interactions with more able children to offer further challenge and fully extend their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practice and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff, children and parents.
- The inspector read some of the pre-school's documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector sampled children's development information and records.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and discussed children's play, learning and progress.

Inspector

Ben Parsons

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The ambitious manager joined the pre-school a year ago and, with the support of her dedicated staff team and committee, has made positive improvements across the setting. Together, they reflect closely on the pre-school and have recently focused on developing the outdoor area and furthering the support for children's toilet training. Children now have access to a stimulating garden, with exciting opportunities to explore a mud kitchen and sand, and plant flowers. Staff also now give parents more guidance to support toilet training and children's self-care skills have benefited greatly from this. The manager provides good guidance and further training for staff. After recent training, staff have recently improved their support for children's healthy lifestyles and introduced more guidance for healthy eating. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff attend safeguarding training and have a good understanding of how to deal with any child protection concern.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff observe and assess children's development closely, using the information effectively to plan for children's next stages of learning. They provide a stimulating and engaging environment which motivates children in their play and learning. Children enjoy exploring with their senses, such as when making dough with staff and excitedly investigating what happens when they mix blue and yellow paint. Staff encourage children's imaginary play particularly well and children delight in developing their role play together. They excitedly think of meals they can make with different ingredients and put on oven gloves to safely take their food out of the play oven. Staff encourage plenty of conversation with all children and show a genuine interest in their lives. Children confidently talk about recent experiences, such as when recalling the pre-school caterpillars turning into butterflies.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well and develop strong friendships. They listen to each other when playing and share happily. For example, when making dough, children wait for their turn well, pass the bowl and share out the dough so they all have enough. Children enjoy regular outdoor play and exercise and confidently discuss the benefits of healthy food as they play, naming their favourite fruit and vegetables. They develop positive links with the local community and regularly visit the attached church throughout the year, building bonds with the local parish. Children learn to behave sensibly during their visits.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident and inquisitive learners. They explore their environment with enthusiasm and enjoyment and quickly gain the skills needed for their future learning and school. Children count how many children are present each day and show good mathematical skills. They communicate clearly and use speech to guide their play and share their ideas. Children are curious about the world and enjoy exciting experiences such as visits to the pre-school from real sheep, when they have the chance to feed and stroke them gently. All children make good progress from their individual starting points.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY402776
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	10108739
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	29
Name of registered person	St John The Divine Church of England Church Governing Body
Registered person unique reference number	RP529403
Date of previous inspection	27 September 2013
Telephone number	07708830733

St John's Pre-School first opened in 1970 and re-registered in 2009. It operates from St John's Hall in Worthing, West Sussex. The pre-school is open between 8.30am and 2.30pm each weekday, during term time only. It is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years. There are six members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications between level 3 and level 6.

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