

# Inspection of RISE Pre-School @ Little Saints

St Paul's Church Hall, Malmesbury Rd, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 1PS

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Inspection date: 14 June 2021

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| <b>Overall effectiveness</b>                 | <b>Good</b>    |
| The quality of education                     | <b>Good</b>    |
| Behaviour and attitudes                      | <b>Good</b>    |
| Personal development                         | <b>Good</b>    |
| Leadership and management                    | <b>Good</b>    |
| Overall effectiveness at previous inspection | Not applicable |

## **What is it like to attend this early years setting?**

### **The provision is good**

The children are happy at pre-school and confident to access their own resources, quickly becoming engaged in activities on arrival. The staff are warm and caring, and know children and families well. Staff promote children's confidence and self-esteem by praising them for their good behaviour and their achievements. They have high expectations of the children, teaching them how to be self-sufficient and how to manage some of their own problems. For example, when children want to pour the water, but do not want to share the jug, a staff member asks them what they could do. Children say 'get the sand timer', and run off to get it, to help them wait for their turn.

Since reopening in September, after being closed due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, the pre-school now has additional health and safety measures in place. Parents no longer enter the pre-school but drop off and collect children at the door. Staff ensure they still have good communication with parents by posting photos and comments in the pre-school's online learning journal. They also talk about the children's day with parents outside the setting, at collection time. The setting is one of three pre-schools run by the Rise Trust.

### **What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?**

- Children who require extra help with their learning are well supported. Staff work closely with families and other professionals to ensure children's needs are met, and they are progressing.
- The children's behaviour is very good, and staff are good role models. If children are asked not to do something, staff offer them an explanation. For example, when children are running inside, they are gently reminded not to run, as they may run into someone. When they take their shoes off outside, they are asked to put them back on, as they may burn their feet on the hot ground.
- The children learn about 'understanding the world' in an exciting way. For example, they make an exploding volcano. The staff and children add ingredients together, discussing what food colouring to use, and how much vinegar and bicarbonate soda. They jump back in excitement as it 'erupts'. They are introduced to new vocabulary including 'eruption' and 'lava'. The enthusiastic staff ensure children are thoroughly engaged in the activity.
- Children are supported well to be independent. They have a water jug and cups available for them to pour their own water, and are reminded to drink on a hot day. They wash their own hands before touching food, and older children use the toilet independently.
- Everyday routine times are used as learning opportunities. For example, at snack time, children count out the food with the adult, as they are putting it in their bowls. When the children's peas keep rolling away at lunchtime, they are asked

how they could stop this happening, and discuss how they could squash them with their fork.

- Staff plan activities for children based on their interests. For example, children play with dinosaurs in a tray filled with soil, bark and grass. They make nests and cover and protect the dinosaur eggs. They pour water on the mud and turn it into a 'swamp'. Some children are engaged for a long time. However, sometimes there are not enough resources and activities available to challenge the older and most able children, so they become less interested and engaged in their play.
- Parents speak highly of the pre-school. They have confidence in the setting. Parents know their children are being well looked after, and that staff will call them if they need to. They say how caring the staff are, and how their children are excited to attend. Parents are kept well informed of their child's progress through the use of the pre-school's online learning journals, parents' meetings and informal catch ups.
- Leadership is effective. However, the manager manages another pre-school within the Rise Trust, so is not always on site. There is currently no named deputy, and staff within the pre-school occasionally miss the benefits of management's direction and support. However, the manager has plans in place to rectify this. There is no negative impact on children.

## **Safeguarding**

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The staff all have a good knowledge of safeguarding and child protection procedures. Staff attend regular in-house safeguarding training. They know signs and symptoms to look for that may be a cause for concern. Children know what to do in case of a fire emergency, as they practise safe fire evacuation procedures. Children are very safe in the pre-school. All access doors are kept locked, and people have to ring to be let in. The Rise Trust has rigorous recruitment procedures, to ensure staff are suitable before being employed to work with the children.

## **What does the setting need to do to improve?**

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

- implement plans to improve the management structure, to ensure it is more effective
- provide more challenging opportunities for the most able children, to ensure all children are occupied and engaged in play.

## Setting details

|  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>                     | EY561278                           |
| <b>Local authority</b>                             | Wiltshire                          |
| <b>Inspection number</b>                           | 10194151                           |
| <b>Type of provision</b>                           | Childcare on non-domestic premises |
| <b>Registers</b>                                   | Early Years Register               |
| <b>Day care type</b>                               | Full day care                      |
| <b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b> | 2 to 4                             |
| <b>Total number of places</b>                      | 16                                 |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>                  | 16                                 |
| <b>Name of registered person</b>                   | The Rise Trust                     |
| <b>Registered person unique reference number</b>   | RP530600                           |
| <b>Telephone number</b>                            | 01249-463040                       |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b>                 | Not applicable                     |

## Information about this early years setting

RISE Pre-School @ Little Saints registered in 2018 and is located in a church hall in Chippenham, Wiltshire. It provides funded early education for children aged two and three years. The setting is open Monday to Thursday, from 8.45am to 2.45pm, during term time only. It is part of The Rise Trust.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Joanne Neenan

### Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector spoke to the staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The manager and the inspector did a joint observation of an activity.
- Parents spoke to the inspector about the setting.
- The inspector checked that suitable checks had been done to ensure staff were vetted to work with children.
- Children and staff were observed by the inspector both inside and outdoors.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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