

Inspection of St Mawgan Pre-School

St Mawgan Community Hall, St Mawgan, Newquay, Cornwall TR8 4ET

Inspection date: 22 March 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children arrive happily and ready to learn at this welcoming and friendly pre-school. They develop strong relationships with the caring staff and show that they feel safe and secure in their care. Children are confident and have fun as they become absorbed in activities. They enjoy challenges, such as building large and complicated train tracks together. Children learn to keep trying when they struggle with activities and tasks. For example, staff model different ways to let children pass each other on the tracks with their trains, when children get frustrated. Children are praised for their efforts and are proud of their achievements.

Children demonstrate a strong sense of belonging and behave well. They listen to and follow instructions and understand the expectations of staff. Children learn to be independent and show satisfaction in doing things for themselves. For instance, they serve themselves at snack times. Children enjoy being helpful and assist staff with setting out and tidying up resources.

Communication has remained good between parents and staff throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Although parents do not currently come into the setting, staff greet each child individually at the entrance and share information with the parents verbally and through an app. This helps to build strong and trusting relationships.

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

- Staff are very knowledgeable about the children they care for and know what they need to do to support children's next steps in learning. They follow the children's interests and enhance areas with resources to encourage children to play there. As a result, children benefit from a wide range of learning experiences, which prepares them well for their future learning.
- Staff introduce mathematical language, such as 'more' and 'less', to support children to compare quantities. They encourage children to estimate how many daisies there are within hoops on the grass outdoors. Children enthusiastically count the daisies they have picked and discuss which has the 'tallest' and 'shortest' stem.
- Overall, staff offer good levels of interaction with children. Children are comfortable with staff who engage with them and consider their interests when planning activities. However, some staff do not consistently challenge children to extend and broaden children's knowledge and understanding.
- Children develop their physical skills through a range of stimulating experiences. They participate in play dough sessions, where they manipulate the dough in a variety of ways. Children giggle with delight as they roll, squash, nip and push their fingers into the dough. Staff and children take full advantage of the pre-school's location. Staff encourage regular access to the wide and open playing

field and play area, which helps to promote children's good health.

- Children are learning the skills for the next stage in their learning. Older children show independence. They use the toilet and wash their hands without the need for reminders. Younger children learn about oral health as they pretend to brush teeth during an activity. Staff use the opportunity to introduce new language as they talk to children about the different parts of a tooth, such as the 'root'.
- Parents speak highly about their children's experiences and the committed staff team. They say their children enjoy attending and that the staff are welcoming and take time to talk to parents. Staff provide parents with regular opportunities to discuss their children's progress. However, on occasion, staff are not always successful at fully engaging parents in their child's learning and development at home.
- The relatively new manager is passionate and dedicated to her role in developing the practice. She is committed to providing high-quality, inclusive care and education for all children and their families. The ambitious committee support the manager well, to carry out her role and responsibilities.
- The manager evaluates the pre-school to identify strengths and weaknesses. Regular staff supervisions enable her to identify the strengths in staff's practice. She uses this information to provide ongoing training and support. The manager monitors the quality of teaching to improve it further.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a good knowledge of safeguarding procedures and understand their responsibility to keep children safe. They keep their knowledge up to date as they regularly attend training. Staff know how to identify, respond to and manage any signs that may suggest a child is at risk of harm. They have a good awareness of wider safeguarding issues and know who to contact if they have a concern. Staff supervise children well. They explain to children clearly about what is expected, for instance, regarding their safety during outings to a local playground.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- improve staff's interactions with children even more sharply, so that they make the most of opportunities to extend and broaden children's knowledge and understanding
- strengthen strategies to further engage parents in their child's learning and development at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY409549
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	10062203
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 at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	23
Name of registered person	St Mawgan Pre-School Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP909678
Telephone number	01637 860924
Date of previous inspection	30 September 2015

Information about this early years setting

St Mawgan Pre-School re-registered in 2010 due to a change in management structure. It operates from the community hall in the village of St Mawgan, Cornwall. The pre-school is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am to 3pm, and Thursday, from 9am to 1pm, during term time only. There are six members of staff, one of whom holds an appropriate childcare early years qualification at level 4 and four at level 3. The pre-school receives funding to provide early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Rachel Cornish

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 manager showed the inspector around the nursery. She discussed with the inspector how the pre-school organises and plans the curriculum and experiences for children. The inspector viewed the indoors and outdoors spaces used by the pre-school.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities and assessed the impact on children's learning. The manager and the inspector evaluated an activity together.
- The inspector spoke to children and staff as part of the inspection.
- Parents spoke to the inspector to provide their views on the nursery.
- The manager explained how she manages the pre-school and discussed safeguarding with the inspector.
- The inspector looked at a sample of the nursery's documents. This included evidence of training and the suitability of staff.

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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