

Inspection of The Heatons at St. Pauls

St. Paul's Pre School, St. Paul's Road, Stockport SK4 4RY

Inspection date: 3 November 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy to start the day at this warm and welcoming nursery. Children feel safe and secure in the care of familiar staff who know the children well. They are happy to separate from their parents and enter the nursery with their key person. This highlights the strong attachments the children form with their key person. Staff have high expectations for all children, including children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). They plan a range of activities around children's interests that build on what they already know and can do. They use these activities to help children to build their vocabulary. For example, they talk about how the gingerbread man 'leaps high and fast' over objects to 'outrun' the baker. Children are then given the opportunity to make their own gingerbread man.

Children benefit from external football coaching and ballet dancing companies visiting each week to develop children's physical skills. Children talk about how much they enjoy these sessions. Children understand the behaviour expected of them by staff. They wait patiently on the carpet before washing their hands for snack time. Two-year-old children show good concentration as they attempt to put on their own coat and do up the zip. Children demonstrate good manners as they say 'please' and 'thank you' when asking for more at lunchtime.

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

- The manager and her team are passionate about their roles. They have a clear vision for providing high-quality care and learning for children. They have planned a broad curriculum which benefits children as it embraces all areas of their development. For example, children are highly focused and show attention to detail as they cut their own tubes to make firework pictures. Children demonstrate enthusiasm for learning and concentrate well on the activities that they have chosen.
- Support for children with SEND is a strength of the nursery. Staff are supported by external agencies to create targeted learning plans to understand the needs of the children. Staff plan appropriate activities to support their level of learning and development. All children make good progress in their learning and development.
- Staff help children develop a love of books and songs. Staff encourage children to listen closely as they read a story and help them join in with familiar phrases. Staff support children to take turns as they choose their favourite songs to sing. Staff praise them for good singing and for successfully copying the actions. Children develop a sense of pride in their achievements.
- Overall, staff support children's developing independence well. Children use the toilet and wash their hands without being prompted. However, not all opportunities to promote independence are explored with older children. For

example, at lunchtime, children are served both their meal and drink without having the opportunity to serve themselves. This limits the experiences to support children's independence.

- Staff interact positively with children and support their physical development in a range of different ways. The setting has recently received accreditation within the local authority for supporting children's physical development. For example, babies enjoy 'barefoot time', exploring the different textures and supporting their balance. Furthermore, pre-school children enjoy 'tummy time' activities, developing their core muscle strength. Children's physical skills are promoted well throughout the setting.
- Children are provided with a healthy diet of nutritious, home-cooked food. They are keen to try new foods. They talk about trying different fruits and which foods are good for their bodies. For example, pre-school children learn that fish contains protein to support a healthy diet. Children develop an understanding of healthy lifestyles.
- The management team reviews staff workload. As a result, it has reduced paperwork so that staff have more time to help children learn. Staff say this helps them to put children's needs first and spend their time playing alongside children. Children benefit from meaningful interactions, supporting their learning opportunities.
- Parents speak extremely highly of the nursery and particularly comment on the progress their children have made in their language development. They appreciate the shared learning approach, which helps them to support their children's development at home. Parents of children with SEND highly praise the staff team and the extra support it puts in place for their children. Parents are happy with the progress their children make.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

All staff understand their responsibility to keep children safe. They receive regular, on-the-spot training and have a clear understanding of the signs that may indicate that children are at risk of abuse. Staff know what actions to take if there are any concerns about children's welfare. Leaders ensure the continued suitability of their staff. New staff receive a concise induction and are aware of policy documents. Leaders carry out risk assessments of the premises.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- make the most of opportunities to encourage children to do things for themselves and develop their independence skills further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2597786
Local authority	Stockport
Inspection number	10251459
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	71
Name of registered person	The Heaton Preschool Group Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP557724
Telephone number	0161 711 0703
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The Heaton at St. Pauls registered in 2020. It is situated in Heaton Moor, Stockport. The nursery employs 21 members of childcare staff. Five hold qualified teacher status, two hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 6, seven hold level 3 and three hold level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, for 50 weeks of the year, closing for one week at Christmas and one week in the summer. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jason Holmes

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 joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about the curriculum and what they want children to learn.
- Children spoke with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2022