

St Mary's Pre-School

St Mary's Hall, Church Street, PRINCES RISBOROUGH, Buckinghamshire, HP27 9AN



Inspection date

13 July 2015

Previous inspection date

22 October 2008

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children develop the skills to become high achievers. They are given individual support to flourish and learn skills that prepare them for the next stage of learning.
- Staff are very knowledgeable and are dedicated to providing excellent care. They make very accurate assessments of children's learning, and use these to plan activities and support to help them make rapid progress in their development.
- The pre-school is very well organised and all staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities. Children's emotional needs are a top priority with staff who know exactly how to help each child to become confident and independent.
- Outstanding leadership helps staff understand how to deliver excellent practices every day. Staff are actively encouraged to attend training and have regular supervision to monitor and support their practice.
- Parents are highly involved in any events that occur at the pre-school. They are offered workshops and attend stay and play sessions and assemblies. Additionally, they receive consistent information from staff about their child's learning. This means staff and parents work in partnership together to improve outcomes for children.
- Staff help children learn to keep themselves and others safe, build on their emotional well-being and prepare them for changes in their lives, including the move to school.
- Staff welcome other professionals into the setting to support children's learning. In addition, other early years settings use the staff's expertise to develop their own practices; attending regular meetings to keep up to date with best practices.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's awareness of other cultures and diversity further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated person, staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector met with and sought the views of a small section of parents.

Inspector

Victoria Frost

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

Children make excellent progress in their learning. They are well motivated and engaged in a wide variety of activities. For example, they enjoy using obstacle courses and using magnetic construction pieces to build with. Staff are highly skilled. They support and extend children's play through their good use of questions, adding extra resources or explaining how things work. They use every opportunity and every interaction to encourage children to learn. Children are closely monitored and their play is observed regularly, meaning the staff quickly identify where children need extra help to learn. This is done in partnership with parents, who have excellent opportunities to be involved in their children's learning. For example, they are involved in interactive play sessions and receive regular feedback from staff. Other professionals are actively encouraged to be involved in children's learning to promote a shared approach to meeting children's needs.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Children enjoy their time at the pre-school and are given many tools to help them become confident learners. Staff effectively help to develop children's social and communication skills, and ensure they enjoy fresh air and exercise each day. Staff provide activities that focus on specific areas of learning, targeted to each child needs, to help children make the best possible progress. The pre-school environment is very well resourced and has a calming, welcoming atmosphere. The staff have identified how they can improve this environment further to enhance children's learning. Staff give children lots of help to prepare them for changes, such as moving on to school. For example, they make a book introducing the new environment and the possibilities it holds for children.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

The exceptional leadership team is highly effective at steering a well-organised, highly motivated staff team. Leaders make sure that all staff are extremely well supported to develop their skills, and attend regular meetings to ensure strong lines of communication within the team. The highly effective management team monitors the provision well to ensure that children receive a rich variety of teaching and learning opportunities that enable them to make exemplary progress in their development. Staff use the early education funding to obtain resources and professional support to improve their teaching practice. All staff are very clear on what is needed to keep children safe and are well trained on local child protection procedures. Reflective practice is continually used by the manager, including the opinions and views of parents and staff, to maintain standards and drive improvements. For example, staff are aware that they could improve how they develop children's understanding of different communities to help them learn about the world around them.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY371169
Local authority	Buckinghamshire
Inspection number	822236
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	36
Name of provider	St Mary's Pre School Committee
Date of previous inspection	22 October 2008
Telephone number	07527 927813

St Mary's Pre-School registered in 2008. It is run by a voluntary committee. It is located in a church hall in Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire. It is open five days a week during school term times. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four. A total of eight staff are employed to work with the children. Of these, seven hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 3.

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