

St Chads Pre-School

54-56 Abbey Lane, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, S8 0BP



Inspection date

2 December 2015

Previous inspection date

21 June 2011

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

- Staff have a good understanding of how children learn and develop. Children are confident learners, who are keen to engage in a range of stimulating and challenging activities.
- Children enjoy close relationships with their key persons, who help them to feel settled and secure. This promotes children's emotional well-being in readiness for the move on to school.
- Staff successfully extend children's knowledge of the wider world and the different religions and cultural traditions that people have. Staff are calm and consistent role models and children's behaviour is very good.
- The manager and staff are proactive and committed to improving outcomes for the children in their care. The well-qualified staff complete further training courses to extend their knowledge and acquire new skills. This has a positive impact on children's learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager has not yet fully developed effective procedures to enable staff to reflect on their already good teaching practice.
- The manager and staff do not robustly track the progress of different groups of children across all areas of learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for staff to reflect on their practice and strengthen the quality of teaching even further
- embed the tracking of the progress of different groups of children to identify and address any emerging gaps in their learning within those groups.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the setting's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the pre-school.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Ruth Moore

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager and staff have a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. This ensures that the pre-school consistently meets all requirements. Partnerships with external agencies are very good, enabling staff to effectively provide tailored support for disabled children and those who have special educational needs. The manager effectively evaluates the setting, supporting the continuous improvement of the service and benefiting children and their families in a positive way. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities in protecting children. This enables them to act promptly and effectively should they have a concern about the welfare of a child. Management and staff monitor individual children's progress so that they can quickly identify any potential gaps in learning and seek appropriate support. However, the monitoring of the different groups of children is not fully embedded into everyday practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching in the pre-school is consistently good. Staff carry out regular observations and make accurate assessments of children's capabilities. They use this information to plan interesting activities that are matched to children's individual needs and interests. Staff promote children's communication and language effectively. This helps to support all children, including those whose starting points are lower, to make at least typical progress in their speaking and listening skills. For example, children talk avidly about the ingredients when making pretend cakes. Staff use every opportunity to help children become familiar with mathematical language during daily activities. Opportunities for parents to share information about their children and to become actively involved in their learning are promoted continuously. Parents are kept up to date with their children's progress and development through termly reports and comprehensive learning journals. Staff regularly give parents activities they can use to extend their children's learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are very familiar with the pre-school routines. They find their own peg and name on arrival to self-register and choose to engage in interesting activities. All children enjoy exploring the environment and making independent choices from the well-resourced playroom. Healthy lifestyles are well promoted. Staff encourage children to follow good hygiene practices, provide them with nutritious snacks, and ensure they have daily opportunities to be physically active outdoors. Children enjoy using ride-on toys and take manageable risks to avoid obstacles as they play.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress given their starting points and capabilities. They are successfully gaining the skills needed for the next stage in their learning and their move on to full-time education.

Setting details

Unique reference number	300711
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	867254
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	21
Number of children on roll	16
Name of provider	St Chads Pre-school (Sheffield) Committee
Date of previous inspection	21 June 2011
Telephone number	0114 2748289 mobile 07526100755

St Chads Pre-school (Sheffield) was registered in 1992. The pre-school employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, 4 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. Two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 6. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 9am until 12 noon. The pre-school provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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