

St Lukes Pre School

St. Lukes C of E A Primary School, Frenchs Road, CAMBRIDGE, CB4 3JZ



Inspection date	10 March 2016
Previous inspection date	24 January 2012

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

- Children build excellent links with their key person during the comprehensive settling-in period. They have warm and affectionate relationships with staff and each other, and clearly feel safe and secure.
- Staff plan and provide a broad range of enjoyable activities based on children's individual interests and aptitudes. Children are keen and motivated learners who make good progress in all the areas of learning.
- Staff's good knowledge of the children helps them to identify and target any potential areas of delay. Rigorous monitoring of the progress of all children, including those who receive additional funding, helps to ensure that children receive the support they need.
- Children's varied languages are represented and the environment has a welcoming and inclusive feel. Staff provide knowledgeable and effective support for those children who speak English as an additional language.
- There is a strong partnership with the host school. Children share space and resources with older children, which supports their move into school well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children's experiences are not yet wide enough to help them to gain a thorough understanding of people, families and communities in the wider world.
- Not all parents are fully encouraged and engaged in offering ongoing information about children's learning and activities at home, to support more precise planning for their learning needs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- expand on children's opportunities to enhance their understanding of the people, families and communities outside their own individual experiences
- build on the already good partnerships with parents in order to learn about and make the most of children's learning experiences at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and spoke to staff about how they plan for children's progress.
- The inspector looked at the premises and the resources available to the children.
- A range of documentation was looked at, including staff's suitability and training, some policies and procedures and children's records.
- Discussions were held with a number of parents and their views and comments were taken into account.

Inspector

Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a thorough understanding of child protection procedures. They attend training and review their knowledge at team meetings. Children are closely supervised and play in a safe, secure environment. The well-qualified team works together very well and provides children with enthusiastic support, helping them to make good progress in their learning. Managers and staff share their good practice with their partner settings to learn about and implement new ideas. They obtain the views of parents and children to help them to evaluate the quality of the service they provide.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The experienced and qualified staff team knows the children well and provides wide-ranging experiences that support their good progress. Staff help children to explore mathematical concepts in practical ways. Children confidently count objects in and out of boxes, and pour water into different sized containers. Staff use positive language, for example, 'I know you can do it' to inspire children to have a go. This gives children the confidence to attempt new things, such as making a successful sandcastle. Staff use favourite stories and ask children purposeful questions to help to develop children's listening skills. Children have plenty of opportunities to make marks as they use chalks, paints and crayons. Older children form recognisable letters. Younger children pick out their name cards with confidence. Children enjoy daily small group activities with their key person. They cluster around to assemble facial features on a wall chart and decide that a happy face reflects their feelings.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are good role models and give children positive support and encouragement. Clear rules and boundaries help children to develop good behaviour. They are kind and enjoy helping one another. Staff give children simple tasks to complete, such as cutting up fruit for snack, which helps to promote their confidence and self-esteem. Children enjoy daily physical exercise throughout the day. They learn to ride wheeled toys, use balancing equipment and play hopscotch. Children's diverse languages are positively supported. Parents share their knowledge with children about relevant festivals, such as Chinese New Year. This contributes to children's understanding of each other's differences and similarities.

Outcomes for children are good

Managers and staff efficiently monitor children's rate of development to make sure they all have the same opportunities to make good progress. Additional funding is targeted and used well. For example, staff have bought a sound phone to help children to listen to themselves singing and talking. An extremely good focus on communication and language skills helps children to be ready for the next stage of their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY413955
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	851467
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	33
Name of provider	Pre-School Learning Alliance
Date of previous inspection	24 January 2012
Telephone number	01223 464927

St Luke's Pre School was registered in 2010. It is managed by the Pre-School Learning Alliance. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday from 9am to 3pm, during school term time. There are four members of staff who work directly with the children. Of these, the manager holds a relevant qualification at level 5, one member of staff has a qualification at level 6, one at level 3 and one at level 2. The pre-school supports children who speak English as an additional language.

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