

St Josephs Pre School

St. Josephs Catholic Primary School, Front Street, Nympsfield, Stonehouse,
Gloucestershire, GL10 3TY



Inspection date 26 May 2017
Previous inspection date 18 May 2015

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

- The manager is conscientious and has an ambitious vision. She and her team have high expectations and are committed to improving outcomes for children.
- The close relationship with the adjoining school supports all children's awareness of school life. Time spent meeting teaching staff and visiting the school throughout their time at pre-school, supports the expected move into school to be a positive experience.
- Children settle well and are happy and secure in this welcoming pre-school. They have a good relationship with staff and one another. Older and younger children learn to play cooperatively together and be respectful to each other's capabilities and needs.
- Staff use informed observations and electronic assessment systems to track children's progress. They accurately identify children's next steps in learning and plan how to best support them. All children make good progress relative to their starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, some staff do not fully challenge older or most-able children during planned activities.
- On occasion, opportunities to identify areas for development regarding teaching and learning are missed.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop even better use of all learning opportunities to provide more challenge for older or most-able children
- enhance performance management to monitor and evaluate the impact of individual teaching skills more effectively, to help raise children's attainment to the highest levels.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed staff and children during play activities.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records, confirmation of staff suitability, policies and procedures.
- The inspector talked with the parents, children, the manager and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector toured the pre-school premises.

Inspector

Julie Bright

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. For example, the well-qualified manager and staff have completed updated safeguarding training and have a secure knowledge of the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. They habitually check the setting and garden to keep children safe. Robust safe recruitment policies and procedures are followed, and staff's ongoing suitability is checked regularly. The manager monitors all children's progress carefully, which helps staff to identify any gaps in children's learning. The manager has developed good links with other professionals to support continuity in children's learning. Parents are delighted with the care provided. They speak highly of staff, the variety of play and activities provided and of the support afforded to them and their children. Parents feel valued and included.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff regularly observe, assess and plan activities to meet children's individual needs, based on their interests. They encourage good mathematical concepts and vocabulary during daily adult-led activities. For example, children print painted shapes on coloured paper and identify an equivalent shape in the environment. Staff support children's language and communication skills well, for instance, by encouraging children to recall events which happened yesterday. Children learn about the natural world and retell how they set free butterflies to find nectar. Additional funding is used well to extend children's interests, for example, to acquire an outdoor mark-making house and new technology.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and clearly enjoy attending this pre-school. They take part in daily physical activities in the school hall and in the garden. Children have good opportunities to learn about healthy lifestyles. They enjoy nutritious snacks and lunchboxes provided by parents. Children celebrate a range of festivals, such as Diwali and Chinese New Year. They learn about similarities and differences, and the customs and beliefs of others in their topic programme 'Barnaby Bear: Around the World'. Children and their parents get to know their key person well. Children form secure attachments with staff and develop key friendships with their peers. This supports their confidence to learn. Caring staff are good role models for children. Overall, children are polite, considerate and behave well.

Outcomes for children are good

In response to previous recommendations, children are increasingly independent at mealtimes and enjoy the social aspect of this activity. For example, they pour their own drinks and cut fruit as they talk with their peers and staff. They learn to share and take turns in conversations, which helps to develop their social skills. Children make good progress and acquire key skills in readiness for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY299203
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	1092192
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 - 4
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	34
Name of registered person	St Josephs Pre School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP525223
Date of previous inspection	18 May 2015
Telephone number	01453860311

St Joseph's Pre-School registered in 2001 and operates from a self-contained building in the grounds of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School in Nympsfield, near Stonehouse, Gloucestershire. The pre-school is open during school terms from Monday to Friday, 8.50am until 3pm. The committee receives funding for two-, three- and four-year-old children. Seven staff work with the children. Of these, the manager holds qualified teacher status and five members of staff hold relevant early years qualifications.

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