

Inspection of Willaston Pre-school

St Johns Methodist Church, Wybunbury Road, Willaston, NANTWICH, Cheshire
CW5 7JF

Inspection date: 27 November 2019

Overall effectiveness **Good**

The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children enter the pre-school happily and settle quickly. They have a positive attitude to learning. For example, as soon as they arrive, they make choices about what they want to do and are curious and keen to take part in the activities provided. Some staff support children's learning exceptionally well. Their animated teaching inspires children to build on what they know and can do and stimulates language acquisition. Children are encouraged to develop a love of books and stories. They concentrate and listen intently to the book of the week and make predictions about what will happen next. They enthusiastically recall the meaning of the new words they have learned. For example, they know that a 'stump' is a tree that has been cut down and they know that they would eat lots of food at a 'feast'. During role play, children excitedly create a feast with the play food to further demonstrate their understanding of the new word.

Children behave well. They help their peers to follow the rules and routines. For example, when they hear the tambourine, they tell others that they need to tidy up. They show respect and concern for their friends. For example, they tiptoe around a child who is sleeping and remind others not to wake her. Most children demonstrate that they feel safe and secure. Children who are less confident or anxious are supported well by familiar staff who provide them with comfort and guidance. For example, staff provide reassurance as they explain what will happen next and why.

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

- The knowledgeable and enthusiastic manager has a clear vision for the pre-school, which is shared by the management committee and staff. She ensures that the curriculum is ambitious and well planned. She monitors the implementation of the curriculum and puts plans in place to address identified areas for development. She has made many positive changes to practice since taking up her position that have improved children's experiences and learning outcomes.
- The manager and staff develop supportive relationships to promote the welfare of children and their families. Parents praise staff for the sensitive and caring ways in which they have supported them and ensured that their children's needs are met.
- Staff's well-being and workload are given high regard. Ancillary staff are employed by the committee to provide support in regard to domestic duties and administrative tasks. This also ensures that staff spend the optimal amount of time with the children.
- Children relish the opportunity to discover what is buried in ice blocks and make pictures out of natural resources. However, at times, some staff do not give

children time to think, respond to the questions and provide solutions to problems before providing the solution themselves.

- Staff know children well and provide them with opportunities to build on their experiences. They involve parents in children's learning and give them ideas about ways to enhance learning at home, particularly regarding language and literacy. For example, parents are informed about the new words that children learn and are encouraged to share the story books that children take home.
- Children develop their physical skills through a range of activities. They manipulate play dough and use tongs to pick up small objects to help to strengthen their small muscles in readiness for writing. Children also enjoy taking part in action songs and moving their bodies to music. This encourages them to be active and develop their larger muscles. Children have daily opportunities to access the outdoor learning environment, where they benefit from exercise and fresh air.
- Staff provide meaningful opportunities for children to develop their counting skills and understanding of numbers. All children are encouraged to count in sequence, for example, during songs. Pre-school children are challenged to recognise and represent numbers. The older children estimate how many children are in the group and write the number on a board. They check whether they are correct by counting the children. Staff praise them for their efforts.
- Children make good progress in their learning and they develop skills in preparation for their move to school. For example, they are encouraged to become independent in their self-care. They have a go at putting on their coats for outdoor play before staff provide assistance.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The designated lead person for safeguarding has a secure understanding of the role. She shares information and discusses scenarios during staff meetings to help to keep staff's knowledge up to date. Staff undertake regular online refresher training and are aware of the action to take if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. Children are kept safe because staff are vigilant and minimise any risks. For example, as other people also use the building, staff ensure that the adjoining doors remain locked. They carry out checks on the outdoor area before children use it.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen some staff's teaching practice so that children are consistently given enough time to process their thoughts, consider solutions to problems and respond to questions.

Setting details

Unique reference number	305438
Local authority	Cheshire East
Inspection number	10109866
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	2 to 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	34
Name of registered person	Willaston Pre-School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP904821
Telephone number	01270 567431
Date of previous inspection	9 January 2015

Information about this early years setting

Willaston Pre-school registered in 1985 and is situated in the Willaston area of Nantwich, Cheshire. The pre-school is managed by a voluntary committee. The pre-school employs 13 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above. The manager holds early years professional status. The pre-school is open Monday to Friday from 8.30am until 3pm during term time. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Dianne Andrews

Inspection activities

- The manager provided information to the inspector about the educational provision during a tour of the premises.
- The inspector held discussions with the chair of the committee and the manager.
- The inspector observed children's play and learning and spoke to staff and children at suitable times during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at required documentation and checked the suitability of staff to work with children.

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 2019