

St Paul's Christian Playgroup

St. Paul's Church Hall, Chigwell Road, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 8BT



Inspection date	3 February 2016
Previous inspection date	10 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 well-qualified staff know children well and have a good understanding of how children learn. They successfully use their accurate observations to plan for and monitor children's learning. All children make good progress.
- Partnerships with parents are secure. Parents are involved in their children's learning, for example, they regularly contribute their own observations to help extend learning.
- Staff support disabled children and those who have special educational needs particularly well, working closely with outside agencies to promote children's development effectively.
- Leaders ensure the environment is safe for children. They work with staff to reduce any risks to children, for example, by thoroughly reviewing any accidents.
- Staff support children's emotional well-being well. For example, when children move on, staff work closely with parents and staff at other settings to help children settle into their new environments.
- Staff provide stimulating resources for children in all areas. Children enthusiastically play together outside, sharing and taking turns with different role play equipment.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, the organisation of whole group sessions results in some children being less engaged in their learning.
- Staff do not fully consider all methods to encourage children to join in with some planned activities to extend their learning opportunities fully.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of large group sessions, particularly so that all children engage fully during these times to extend their learning further
- consider different ways to encourage children to participate in planned activities, so they benefit from making informed choices about their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during planned and spontaneous activities.
- The inspector spoke with children, parents, staff and the manager at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including staff suitability records and children's development folders.

Inspector

Lesley Hodges

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of what to do and who to contact if they have concerns about a child. They understand the signs when a child might be at risk of harm. The manager implements effective recruitment procedures, including suitability checks, for all staff prior to working with children. She successfully monitors staff performance. For example, she conducts observations of staff practice and holds meetings with individual staff to review children's progress. The manager works closely with staff to identify training needs and areas for development. She carefully considers how to use additional funding to benefit the children, using her good knowledge of their specific needs. The manager welcomes parents' involvement in reviewing the quality of the setting. She ensures parents make their views known and values their contributions, to help drive forward continuous improvements.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a welcoming and positive learning environment. During free play sessions, children confidently choose their own play and happily explore the resources. Staff are skilled at supporting children's communication development, particularly during spontaneous play. For example, they ask questions that encourage children to think about their answers and give them enough time to do this. Children enjoy creative activities. For example, they build houses with sticks and play in the mud kitchen. Staff promote children's awareness of mathematics in a range of ways. For example, children count during group times and staff set achievable mathematical problems in play to help children find solutions.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy their time at the setting. They build close bonds with staff and go to staff for reassurance. Staff successfully enhance children's self-esteem, such as with kind words and by listening attentively. Children learn to manage small tasks by themselves. Children learn about healthy foods; for example, they identify the benefits of different foods during snack times. Children choose to play inside or outside for long periods during each session. They develop their physical skills well; they take part in parachute games and play with large construction resources and bikes. Staff teach children about their local environment, for example, they plan nature walks. Staff teach children about keeping themselves safe in the setting and at home through carefully planned activities.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop their early literacy skills well in preparation for their move to school. For example, older children sound out the letters of their names, and begin to write and recognise individual letters, showing good early writing skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	128485
Local authority	Redbridge
Inspection number	825451
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	44
Name of provider	St Paul's Christian Playgroup Management Committee
Date of previous inspection	10 May 2011
Telephone number	0208 504 5465

St Pauls Christian Playgroup registered in 1993. The setting is located in Woodford Bridge, in the London Borough of Redbridge. It is open each weekday from 9.15am to 12.15pm, Monday to Friday, during term time only. The provider employs 14 members of staff; of these, 10 hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and one has achieved Early Years Professional Status. The provider receives funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

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