

Inspection of St John's Pre-school Nursery

Newland St John's Academy, Beresford Avenue, Hull HU6 7LS

Inspection date: 17 February 2022

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children benefit from being in the care of an exceptional staff team. Children enter excitedly and are warmly greeted by staff who know them very well. Children have excellent manners. They are highly effective communicators and play cooperatively in the stimulating learning environment provided by staff. Children have an excellent understanding of the routines and boundaries of the pre-school. This helps children to feel safe and secure.

Children take part in wonderful small-friendship groups. They are learning how to be a nice friend. Children demonstrate excellent turn taking as they wait patiently to have their go. Children confidently talk about their feelings and offer compliments to their friends. For example, they say, 'You have done good sharing' and 'You have shown good listening'. Children, including children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), show a high level of understanding and management of their own feelings.

Experienced and highly qualified staff provide a well-structured curriculum that builds on what children already know and can do. For example, staff support children's mathematical understanding as they catch fish in the water. The children count out how many they have caught. They explore who has got more or less fish in their fishing nets. The carefully planned curriculum means that children, including those with SEND, make excellent progress in their learning and development.

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

- The manager and trustees have high expectations and work tirelessly to ensure the children have the very best experiences. They ensure that children are given every opportunity to be independent and learn about something new. They carefully consider and choose the type of resources and equipment, and how these are presented to the children. As a result, children show high levels of curiosity and a sense of wonder in their learning.
- Children's development in communication and language is given extremely high priority. Staff consistently model good language to children. Staff introduce new words and demonstrate them in short sentences. As a result, by the time the children leave the pre-school, they have made exceptional progress in their speaking and listening skills. For example, children explain what a stethoscope is as they demonstrate how they can listen for a doll's heartbeat. They name parts of the body then point them out on a body diagram.
- Staff nurture a love of books in children. They have access to a wide variety of books and audio books. Children are given regular opportunities to take a book home to read with parents. Children discuss their thoughts on the stories and

create their own play, based on these. For example, children use puppets with enthusiasm and excitement to recreate popular stories.

- During the COVID-19 pandemic, staff have reflected on the gaps children have in their learning. Using a highly innovative series of planned learning opportunities in small groups, and through individual support, staff have targeted the weaker areas. Children are making excellent progress. For example, children take turns to share a drill as they create dinosaurs. They catch bubbles or catch a frog as they learn to make choices.
- The support put in place for children who require additional help in their learning is outstanding. The special educational needs coordinator (SENCo) has excellent understanding and knowledge. She knows how to implement targeted support for children to ensure they reach their full potential. She has formed highly effective partnerships with external professionals. The SENCo works closely with key people to ensure additional funding is used to the best advantage for the children.
- The management team empowers the staff to continually develop their skills and knowledge. The whole staff team constantly seeks out new ways to benefit children's learning. Leaders ensure staff and children's emotional and spiritual well-being is a high priority.
- Partnership with parents is excellent. Parents comment on the excellent feedback they receive from staff, either in person or electronically. Parents appreciate the home-learning bags and advice they receive from staff to support their child's development at home. They appreciate that the pre-school is welcoming parents back into the setting, following the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff fully understand their roles and responsibilities to promote children's welfare and well-being. Regular scenario situations and quizzes offer staff the opportunity to practise their knowledge and skills. A rigorous recruitment procedure and carefully planned induction and supervision programme ensures staff's initial and ongoing suitability to work with children. Despite the difficulties posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, staff have been proactive in maintaining regular contact with families and other agencies. This offered a high level of protection to children. All staff hold a paediatric first-aid certificate. This ensures staff can respond to any accidents or incidents appropriately.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY350023
Local authority	Kingston Upon Hull City Council
Inspection number	10117726
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	25
Name of registered person	St John's Pre-school Nursery
Registered person unique reference number	RP901925
Telephone number	01482 305740
Date of previous inspection	1 April 2014

Information about this early years setting

St John's Pre-school Nursery registered in 2007. It operates from Newland St John's Church of England Academy in Kingston upon Hull. It provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. The setting is open from 8.50am to 11.50am, Monday to Friday, term time only. There are five members of staff employed at the setting. The majority of staff hold at least a childcare qualification at level 6.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jo Clark

Inspection activities

- This was the first inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The provider and the inspector completed a learning walk together to understand how the early years provision and curriculum are organised.
- The inspector made observations throughout the inspection of children's experiences in the setting.
- Joint observations were carried out by the inspector and the provider.
- Children spoke to the inspector about their experiences in the setting.
- The inspector spoke to staff, parents and carers, at appropriate times during the inspection.
- A meeting was held with the provider. This included a review of relevant documentation, including evidence of staff's suitability and training.

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.

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