

St. Mary & St. Michael Holiday Scheme



St. Mary & St. Michael Primary School, Sutton Street, LONDON, E1 0BD

Inspection date 17 February 2015
Previous inspection date 15 June 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff provide a varied range of activities to cover all areas of learning. They use their good knowledge of how children learn to plan activities which children are keen to engage in. Teaching during spontaneous play and planned activities is good.
- Staff use effective questioning techniques to encourage children to think about their play. They give children time to think about and answer questions. Therefore, they successfully promote children's communication development.
- Staff provide a very inclusive and welcoming environment and this helps all children to settle quickly.
- Staff effectively support children who are learning to speak English as an additional language, because they use visual prompts and speak a range of languages.
- Staff give careful consideration to children's emotional well-being and support them well as they move from the nursery environment to other settings and schools.
- The outside area is well resourced. Children can choose to play outside for long periods each day and this means that those who prefer to learn outside can do so.
- Managers organise the provision effectively and staff work well as a team. Therefore, they meet the children's care and learning needs, and plan different tasks effectively.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not take all opportunities to enhance children's awareness of healthy eating.
- Staff do not consistently use everyday routines, such as snack and mealtimes, to encourage children to do things for themselves. Therefore, they do not fully promote their independence skills at such times.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen children's awareness of healthy eating by talking with children about their healthy snacks and meals
- provide further opportunities for children to develop their independence skills during everyday routines, so they learn to do more things by themselves.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with a senior member of staff.
- The inspector observed as children took part in spontaneous play, group activities and daily routines.
- The inspector spoke with children, parents, staff and managers, at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation including children's records and staff information.

Inspector

Lesley Hodges

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The consistency of regular staff provides children with a stable and very welcoming environment. Staff provide a varied range of challenging activities which enhance children's learning through play. Staff carefully plan activities that promote children's learning well, indoors and outside. Children enjoy drawing and writing activities. They make individual and group pictures to develop their creative and early writing skills. Staff promote these activities very well to complement children's learning at school. At the end of each holiday scheme, children take home achievement books which contain their pictures and other creations. Staff identify any new learning or special achievements and share these with parents. Caring, attentive staff meet the needs of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. They provide one-to-one support when children need it and promote inclusion successfully for all children.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Staff promote good settling in arrangements which provide reassurance for children new to the setting and for those who are hesitant when returning after a long absence. They consistently promote positive behaviour. Children join in with setting the rules and boundaries. Therefore, they learn to behave well and consider other children. Overall, staff provide many opportunities for children to develop independence. However, this is less evident during snack and mealtimes. For example, staff do not encourage children to pour their own drinks or peel their fruit. Daily outside play and healthy snacks promote children's good health. However, staff do not take every opportunity to talk with children about the nutritional value of the snacks they provide to strengthen children's awareness of healthy eating.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

Managers have a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and promote continuous improvement well. Staff have a secure understanding of safeguarding issues. They have good knowledge of the procedures to follow if they have a concern about a child. Annual training gives them the knowledge they need to provide a safe environment and minimise hazards to children's safety. The provider's recruitment procedures are robust and policies are comprehensive. Regular group and individual staff meetings address any staff development needs. The lead member of staff for early years works well with colleagues to ensure that planning is precise and offers children a good mix of challenging activities. Parents speak very highly of the staff and praise them for their friendliness and professionalism. Parents enjoy regular feedback from staff who address their ideas for improvement with enthusiasm.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY349265
Local authority	Tower Hamlets
Inspection number	986310
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	3 - 8
Total number of places	90
Number of children on roll	48
Name of provider	London Borough of Tower Hamlets
Date of previous inspection	15 June 2009
Telephone number	0207 7904986

St Mary and St Michael Primary School Out of School Care registered in 2007. It operates at St Mary and St Michael Primary School in Stepney, in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The holiday scheme opens from 8am to 6pm during some school holidays. The provider employs 24 members of staff. Of these, 17 staff hold relevant qualifications at level 3 and six staff hold qualifications at level 2.

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