

St. Michael's School House Nursery

Crowthorne Road, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 7EH



Inspection date

21 October 2015

Previous inspection date

4 December 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff accurately assess children's progress and plan extremely well for their individual needs. They provide extremely stimulating and challenging activities that motivate children to learn. All children, including those who are learning English as an additional language and those requiring additional help, make rapid progress from their starting points.
- Staff support children's communication skills exceptionally well. Children develop excellent thinking skills and confidence to speak in small and large groups.
- Partnerships with parents are highly effective. Parents comment on the high-quality provision and the excellent communication they receive about their children's progress. This exceptional involvement of parents provides continuity for children's learning at nursery and home.
- Partnerships with local schools are exceptionally strong. The sharing of information provides continuity for children moving on to school and for those that attend the after school provision. Children gain confidence and are emotionally well prepared for their moves between nursery and school.
- The manager use self-evaluation extremely well to identify and maintain high-quality improvements. She gains the views of staff, parents and children and uses the information to drive improvements to ensure excellent outcomes for children.
- Staff place an extremely strong focus on children's safety and welfare. Children develop an extremely good understanding of how to stay safe, for example, when they practise road safety in imaginative play. Children learn to respect others and play cooperatively. Children's behaviour is exemplary.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the already highly successful monitoring of staff performance to help them focus on and evaluate more precisely each other's practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with parents, staff and children to gain their views.
- The inspector observed children and staff during play and carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector examined a sample of documents, policies and children's records.
- The inspector discussed the self-evaluation process with the manager.

Inspector

Alison Southard

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The leaders and managers are highly motivated and have an excellent understanding of their roles and responsibilities. They have worked to drive improvements to provide a high-quality provision since their last inspection. They skilfully support and supervise staff, which has significantly raised standards. Staff are encouraged to complete training to strengthen their teaching, for example, the implementation of small group activities to help extend children's communication skills. Managers have identified that staff do not consistently evaluate one another's practice to help strengthen their skills even further. Safeguarding is effective. Leaders and managers ensure staff have an excellent understanding of how to identify concerns for children's welfare and the action to take to protect them from harm. Leaders and managers monitor children's progress exceptionally well. They quickly identify gaps in their learning and provide additional help to close these.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The quality of teaching is excellent. Staff use a variety of highly effective teaching methods. For example, they encouraged children to act out a familiar story to help them learn how to recall and sequence events. Staff assess children extremely well and plan precisely to help each child make progress. Teaching is exciting and highly motivational. Staff skilfully recognise spontaneous opportunities to extend children's learning exceptionally well. For example, staff encouraged children to find ways to collect rainwater as it ran off the canopy. Children excitedly found pots and used it to water their Brussels sprout seeds. Children learn exceptional early writing skills. They use a wide variety of implements to practise and learn how to form the letters of their names from an early age.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff support children's emotional well-being exceptionally well and get to know each family when they visit children at home before they start. Children develop very strong independence. They confidently choose from a range of high-quality resources that help to extend their learning. Children develop an excellent understanding of healthy lifestyles. Staff skilfully build on children's prior learning about growth, for example, by cutting open an apple to help children think why they have seeds. Children have a very good understanding of nutrition and health eating. They exercise in the fresh air daily, which supports their physical well-being effectively. Excellent teaching helps children develop a strong awareness of the similarities and differences between themselves and others, for example, staff help children understand why some people wear glasses.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make rapid progress from their starting points. They develop excellent mathematical and literacy skills that prepare them exceptionally well for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	119299
Local authority	Bracknell Forest
Inspection number	1001174
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	35
Name of provider	St. Michael's School, Easthampstead, Childcare Trust
Date of previous inspection	4 December 2014
Telephone number	01344 869340

St Michael's School House Nursery registered in 1992. It is part of the St Michael's Childcare Trust Limited. The nursery is situated in the grounds of St Michael's School, in Bracknell, Berkshire. The nursery is open each weekday during term time from 8.45am until 11.45am and from 12.15pm until 3.15pm, with the option to attend lunch club and stay all day. The after school club opens five days a week during school term times and sessions are from 3.15pm until 6.15pm. The holiday club operates each weekday during school holidays and is open between 8.45am until 6.15pm. The provider employs 10 staff, nine of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 2 to level 6. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years.

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