

The Learning Community Nurseries' St Martins

150 Frome Road, Odd Down, Bath, BA2 5RE



Inspection date

20 November 2015

Previous inspection date

20 March 2012

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 quality of teaching is good. Staff provide a wide range of learning experiences that effectively support children's development. Resources reflect children's interests and are exciting and challenging. This motivates children, who play well together and enjoy attending the nursery.
- Staff know the children extremely well. They make regular assessments of children's development and use these effectively to plan for their next steps in learning.
- Partnerships with parents, other providers and external agencies are strong, which provides consistency for all children. Effective communication enables staff to meet children's individual care and learning needs very successfully.
- Management and staff use training effectively. They develop techniques to support children's communication and language skills.
- Children and staff form strong attachments and share close relationships. Staff meet young children's care needs very well, which supports their physical and emotional well-being. Children are confident and feel secure.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not make the most of all opportunities during activities to extend children's learning and sometimes do not give them sufficient time to share their ideas or answer questions.
- Staff do not take every opportunity to always encourage children to be independent during everyday routines.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider giving children more time to answer questions and share their ideas to extend their learning
- take every opportunity to encourage children's independence by, for example, encouraging them to take care of the resources and the environment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's learning records and staff's suitability checks.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the management, spoke to children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Michelle Tuck

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Management and staff are clear on the signs or symptoms that may give cause for concern and the reporting procedure to follow. They have a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and implement these effectively. Robust vetting and recruitment processes ensure that only those suitable to do so work with the children. Staff have regular supervision meetings and yearly appraisals which help to identify any training needs to improve teaching and the educational programmes provided for children. Management and staff regularly reflect on their practice and use self-evaluation effectively, including the views of staff, parents and children, to identify areas for improvement. For example, transforming the undercover area into an outdoor classroom has enabled children to access resources outside, which supports learning in all areas. Parents are very positive about the nursery. They comment that their children are very happy and they feel very supported by the staff.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children thoroughly enjoy themselves at the nursery. Young children use their senses to explore the environment. They are active learners and use their imaginations well. For example, they sing happy birthday to one another as they pretend it is their friend's birthday. They also pretend to look after animals as they play at being a vet in the role play area. Staff promote children's communication and language skills effectively. For example, they listen to children and teach them to link sounds and letters. Staff teach children to count and recognise numerals. They learn about shape and size and have access to a wide range of resources to practise their emerging writing skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff encourage children to think about their feelings and teach them to speak to one another to manage any disputes for themselves. Children play well together, display good manners and behave well. Children develop their physical skills, enjoy the benefits of fresh air, and exercise as they play outside. Staff teach them about the importance of keeping healthy as they follow thorough hygiene routines and encourage them in making healthy choices, for example. Staff give the children lots of praise and encouragement. Children have high self-esteem and confidence.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in relation to their starting points, including children with additional needs or those who are learning English as an additional language. They learn essential skills, which prepares them extremely well for the next stage in their learning and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY339058
Local authority	Bath & NE Somerset
Inspection number	987903
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	60
Name of provider	Bath and North East Somerset Council
Date of previous inspection	20 March 2012
Telephone number	01225 396002

The Learning Community Nurseries St Martins is in St Martin's Garden Primary School in Odd Down, Bath. It registered in 2006. The nursery is open from 8am until 6pm, all year round, with the exception of Christmas and bank holidays. There are 13 members of staff. Two members of staff have Early Years Professional Status and nine members of staff hold relevant qualifications at level 3. The nursery is in receipt of funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years. They are in receipt of early years pupil premium funding.

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