

St Joseph`s Nursery

St Josephs Place, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 1DD



Inspection date

27 November 2015

Previous inspection date

21 June 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- The nursery benefits from exceptionally effective leaders. They demonstrate a strong desire to provide the highest quality childcare. Their ambition is firmly embedded in the whole staff team, who constantly strive to make further improvements.
- Children relish their time at this welcoming nursery, where consistent and caring staff help children build strong relationships. Children are completely absorbed in all they do from the moment they arrive. They are settled, happy and very eager to learn.
- Teaching is of a consistently high standard. The well-qualified staff have a deep understanding of how children learn. They skilfully support children's learning through rich and playful experiences based on children's interests. Children make rapid progress.
- Staff keep a very close check on children's development. They are highly alert to those at risk of falling behind. They take positive steps to ensure children receive the support they need at the earliest opportunity to help them achieve as well as they can.
- Partnerships with parents and other professionals are outstanding. Staff regularly 'go the extra mile' to ensure that everyone works together for the benefit of the children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to use a wide variety of information technology to support all areas of their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff interacting with children during indoor and outdoor activities, and spoke with both at appropriate times.
- The inspector discussed with staff and the management team how they support children's learning and monitor their progress.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including children's records, evidence of staff suitability, policies and procedures, the accident record, risk assessments and monitoring records.
- The inspector discussed with the management team the self-evaluation of the nursery and the plans for improvement.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and from written testimonials.

Inspector

Rachel Edwards

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The committed manager places a very strong focus on self-reflection to drive improvement. The well-qualified lead practitioner uses her exceptional knowledge to mentor the staff and monitor children's progress. All staff work together extremely effectively, sharing knowledge and skills to strengthen everyone's practice. They maintain exceptionally high standards throughout the nursery. Safeguarding is effective. All staff clearly understand their responsibility to safeguard children. They are highly vigilant, promoting children's health, safety and well-being to a very high standard. Staff show a real concern for the children they care for and their families. They do their utmost to offer practical and emotional support during challenging times, which significantly benefits the children. Staff maintain strong partnerships with local schools which help children make a smooth move into Reception Classes.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff excel in encouraging children to be in control and think imaginatively for themselves. This helps children to persevere with problems and work out what to do. For example, when the slide was wet, one child decided to dry it and fetched a towel, while another thought waterproof trousers were the answer. This enthusiastic, independent approach is apparent even in the youngest children, such as when they fetch a step so they can reach the sink to wash their hands. Children benefit from regular focused activities to support listening and speaking skills. Children choose to learn actively outdoors for much of the day. They want to write and draw as staff make it fun, for example, as they use large rolls of paper on the floor. They learn about numbers as they excitedly work together, matching beanbags to buckets. Children are encouraged to reflect on their learning. They make books about recent activities to talk about later. Children use simple computer programs and watch interesting videos on the internet to deepen their understanding. Children have fewer opportunities to use a wide range of information technology in all areas of their play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff encourage children to be thoughtful and kind, for example, making a card for a poorly friend. Children are confident and self-assured. Staff value their opinions, for example, when the youngest children vote on what to make the role play area into. Children enjoy healthy and nutritious meals. They make good choices about what and how much to eat as they serve themselves. They learn a great deal about healthy eating, such as when they grow and harvest fruits and vegetables, and enjoy eating bread they bake. Parents speak very highly of the staff, and comment that their children are happy and confident since starting at the nursery.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Almost all children meet or exceed the typical level of development for their ages. All progress very well in relation to their starting points. They make especially rapid progress in their communication skills. Children are exceptionally well prepared for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	145948
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	841726
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	39
Number of children on roll	42
Name of provider	St Joseph`s Nursery
Date of previous inspection	21 June 2012
Telephone number	01380 829821

St Joseph's Nursery registered in 1977. It operates from purpose-built premises within the grounds of St Joseph's Primary School, in Devizes, Wiltshire. The nursery is open weekdays from 9am until 3pm throughout school term time. The nursery employs nine members of staff. Most staff hold appropriate early years qualifications. One member of staff has Early Years Professional Status. The nursery is accredited to receive government funding for the provision of early education for children aged two, three and four years.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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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