

St Thomas-a-Becket Nursery

3 Tutts Barn Lane, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN22 8XT



Inspection date

8 December 2015

Previous inspection date

8 July 2011

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

- Staff support all children to make good progress, particularly those who are learning English as an additional language. They use a range of effective ways to meet children's individual needs.
- Staff ensure that parents feel fully involved, informed and are kept up to date with their children's progress. Staff encourage parents to attend regular workshops where they build on this knowledge further.
- Staff act as positive role models, showing good manners and behaviour. Children are polite and generally well behaved.
- Children are prepared well for their move on to school. For example, staff and children meet weekly with the teachers and use the school facilities to help promote consistency in care.
- Management is dedicated to continuing to improve current practice and make positive changes to improve outcomes for children; who are engaged and motivated to learn.
- Children have good opportunities to extend their learning, and staff use the local community and environment around them well to build on this.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always manage large group activities well to keep all children fully engaged in these learning opportunities.
- Staff do not regularly provide a wide range of opportunities for children to develop their skills in using and understanding technology.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the organisation of large group activities to fully engage all children in learning opportunities
- extend opportunities for children to further develop their information, communication and technology skills on a daily basis.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed children playing in the indoor and outdoor environments.
- The inspector observed staff interaction with the children.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including a sample of the policies and procedures, staff suitability records and children's records.
- The inspector spoke to children, parents and staff, and took their views into consideration.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team is knowledgeable and committed to their role. Staff are experienced and supported well by management to meet children's individual needs well. The staff team has a good understanding of how children learn, and provides engaging and stimulating activities and resources to extend their learning. For example, children show enjoyment in caring for the rabbits that are regularly brought into the setting to visit the children. Management accurately monitors staff practice, and the quality of learning and teaching. They carry out regular observations and meet with staff on a regular basis to identify the next steps in their professional development. Management accurately tracks and records children's progress. They are able to identify and support any gaps in progress promptly to close them. All children make good progress, including those with additional needs. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good knowledge of the signs and symptoms to be aware of, and the policies and procedures to follow, if they have a concern for a child's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children well. There is a well-established key-person system in place, and staff support children's development well. Staff extend children's learning well. For example, during a listening activity staff use real items to support discussions and engage children further. Staff make good links with other professionals. They share learning ideas and activities. This helps staff provide children with a consistency in their care and supports them well in their learning. Children develop good physical well-being. For example, children learn the importance of healthy lifestyles, such as having healthy lunchboxes. Children develop good physical development and enjoy exercise on a daily basis. For example, they have opportunities to climb, balance and negotiate space during their play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop good social skills. For example, they participate in activities that require them to take turns and share. Children are kind and show empathy towards each other's needs. Staff promote children's understanding of diversity and differences within society well. For example, children celebrate festivals and participate in activities, such as belly dancing, to further embed their understanding of these cultures. Children develop good communication, language and speaking skills. For example, staff constantly talk to the children; reinforcing positive language and the correct pronunciation of words with them well.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in relation to their starting points. Children develop the skills they need for their future learning. For example, they are developing good early numeracy and early literacy skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	507912
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	842251
Type of provision	Sessional 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	50
Number of children on roll	59
Name of provider	St Thomas-a-Becket Nursery School Limited
Date of previous inspection	8 July 2011
Telephone number	01323 726004

St Thomas-a-Becket Nursery registered in 1999. It is located in the grounds of St Thomas-a-Becket Infant School, in the town of Eastbourne, East Sussex. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, 9am to 3pm, term time only. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs eight staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications between level 3 and level 5.

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