

St Michael's Community Nursery

The Village Hall, Dell Close, Mickleham, Dorking, Surrey, RH5 6EE



Inspection date	9 February 2016
Previous inspection date	23 May 2011

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

- Leaders are motivated and communicate high expectations to all staff. This helps to ensure that improvements in practice promote good outcomes for children.
- Children gain a good understanding of healthy lifestyles. For example, they enjoy nutritious snacks and benefit from active play outside, where they enjoy fresh air and exercise.
- Staff are positive role models for children and actively encourage them to extend their learning. For example, when children showed an interest in treasure maps, staff found a box of gemstones for them to explore and use.
- Parents are very happy with the nursery. Staff keep them fully informed of their children's development. Parents have opportunities to comment or make suggestions about their children's progress and improvements to the nursery.
- Staff's good knowledge and understanding of teaching encourage children to learn and develop. They provide effective encouragement for those children who need additional help. Staff identify any gaps in the progress children make and obtain relevant support. Children are well prepared for the next stage in their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not provide activities for the younger children that strongly focus on their interests and maintain their attention.
- Staff do not always make the best possible use of opportunities in some activities to extend children's mathematical development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the learning experiences of younger children and make the best possible use of their interests when planning activities
- extend opportunities for children to strengthen their mathematical development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor play areas.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager to evaluate the quality of teaching.
- The inspector talked with the provider, staff, children and the manager at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection and from written information.

Inspector

Jacalyn Hord

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leaders have clear roles and responsibilities. They lead a dedicated, committed and well-qualified team of staff. The management team effectively evaluates and monitors the quality of care and teaching to help ensure practice is consistently good and improving. Managers provide regular support meetings and training to enable staff to have the necessary skills to deliver effective practice. For example, a recent course on creativity helped staff to extend the use of children's imaginative ideas and promoted new activities. Safeguarding is effective. Staff know what to do if they have any concerns about children's welfare and keep up to date with current guidance. Partnerships with parents and other early years professionals are good and help maintain a strong shared approach to children's development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, children develop very positive attitudes towards learning and staff provide fun and relevant activities. Resources are plentiful and the environment provides ample space for children to move around easily and engage in the activities. For example, children have great fun as they dig for treasure in the large outdoor sandpit. Staff develop children's language and interest in books well, such as when they read stories together in the outside 'gingerbread house'. Staff extend children's learning and development effectively. For example, they offer children plenty of individual attention and clearly understand each child's preferred learning style. Children make good progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave very well and, for example, consistently show kindness, care and respect for one another. The staff work hard to be inclusive and value each child as an individual. For example, the 'wow moments' shared from home help children, staff and parents to celebrate children's achievements, which promotes children's confidence. Children learn about other cultures, such as when they danced like dragons to celebrate the Chinese New Year. Children form secure attachments with their key person. Staff encourage children to take responsibility, such as for small tasks that help to promote their independence.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain the skills they need for their future learning and the move to school. For example, they listen well and develop good communication skills. Older children demonstrate high levels of concentration. They confidently explore as they follow their interests and engage positively with the attentive staff. Children develop a confident understanding of letters and the sounds they make to promote their early literacy skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	122677
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	825305
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	26
Number of children on roll	42
Name of provider	St Michael's Community Nursery Committee
Date of previous inspection	23 May 2011
Telephone number	01372 361021

St Michael's Community Nursery was registered in 1993. It operates from the village hall in Mickleham, near Dorking, Surrey. The nursery opens each weekday during school term time. Sessions run from 9.15am to 1.15pm each day and until 2.45pm on Monday and Thursday. There are 10 members of staff; of these, eight have appropriate early years qualifications. This includes two staff with a qualification at level 6 and one member of staff who has Early Years Professional Status. The provider receives funding to provide 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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

