

St Mary's (Battle) Nursery Ltd



St Mary's Church Hall, High Street, Battle, East Sussex, TN33 0AQ

Inspection date

9 June 2016

Previous inspection date

15 January 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Staff do not consistently manage children's behaviour well enough. For example, staff miss opportunities to fully support children to learn how to behave towards others and deal with situations in positive ways.
- The manager does not always make effective use of the supervision and monitoring of staff to consistently support them to develop and improve their practice.
- The quality of the interactions with children is sometimes inconsistent across the staff team. They do not always fully respond to what children say, which does not help to extend children's learning further.

It has the following strengths

- Staff monitor and track children's development effectively and they recognise children's achievements well. They consider and plan purposeful experiences to help support children's next steps in learning and the skills needed for future learning.
- The manager has worked to meet the actions and recommendations from the previous inspection and to evaluate the provision. For example, she clearly records information about staff's suitability and, with external support, is providing children with challenging, first-hand experiences.
- Staff work well with other professionals. For example, they share information which helps them in providing opportunities to enable all children to develop and reach individually planned targets.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and the Childcare Register the provider must:

Due Date

- ensure strategies for managing children's behaviour are embedded in practice and used consistently by staff. 14/07/2016

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

- refine and focus the monitoring of staff, to help support and enhance their practice further
- build on staff's interactions with children so they consistently respond skilfully to children's comments and extend their learning through play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at play in the inside and outside spaces.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents, staff and children throughout the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation including children's developmental records and policies and procedures.
- The inspector observed staff interacting with children during planned activities.

Inspector

Amanda Vidler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The majority of staff hold appropriate qualifications and attend regular training. However, the manager does not always focus her time sufficiently on observing staff to help further improve their practice. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff are confident with their responsibility to protect children from harm. They know the procedures to follow should they have a concern about a child's welfare. The manager oversees the monitoring of children's development sufficiently. This helps her to identify any potential gaps in individual or groups of children's learning and to put effective strategies in place. Parents speak highly of the setting and comment that the staff are kind and caring and meet children's individual needs well. Staff meet regularly with parents and discuss children's progress and next steps. This helps to support continuity of care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan a welcoming environment and enable children of all ages to have easy access to a good range of resources indoors and outdoors. Children initiate their own play. For example, children take laminated books to staff to discuss the songs they would like to sing. Overall, staff interact with children well and children benefit from being given time to explore their interests. For example, they spent a long period of time watching the dogs from the adjoining hall participate in obedience training. Children show a strong sense of pride in their achievements and enthusiastically share these with others. At story time children were excited to show their friends and staff their creations made from connecting bricks.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Overall, children are happy, safe and display a sense of belonging. They benefit from close bonds with staff and spending time with children of different ages. Staff encourage simple manners and cooperative play. However, staff do not always manage children's behaviour consistently. For example, they do not always talk to children about behaviour guidelines and give simple explanations. This does not support children's understanding of what is expected and their knowledge of how their behaviours can impact on others. Children's good health is supported and they enjoy daily outdoor play. Staff provide nutritious snacks and meals and teach children to manage their own hygiene needs.

Outcomes for children are good

Children progress well in relation to their starting points. They are keen learners who develop and practise skills to support their future learning. For example, children speak confidently and they eagerly talk about what they have learnt and enthuse about the different activities they have experienced. Children understand the daily routines of the nursery, which helps to encourage their independence.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY446956
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	1028048
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	1 - 4
Total number of places	23
Number of children on roll	32
Name of registered person	St Mary's (Battle) Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP531626
Date of previous inspection	15 January 2013
Telephone number	01424 772128

St Mary's Nursery registered in 2012. It is located in Battle, East Sussex. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 5pm, 48 weeks a year. There are five staff, of whom four hold relevant early years qualifications. The manager holds early years professional status and the deputy holds a relevant level 4 qualification. The provider receives funding to provide free 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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