

St Joseph's Nursery

St. Josephs Primary School, Bridge Road, Aldershot, Hampshire, GU11 3DD



Inspection date

6 October 2016

Previous inspection date

11 November 2013

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

- The leadership team regularly monitors the observations and assessments staff make of children to identify quickly any gaps in their learning. They ensure staff help children to catch up. Children make good progress in their learning and development.
- The leadership team is reflective and continually evaluates the care the nursery provides. It encourages parents to give their views, for example, through questionnaires. Staff also contribute their ideas to identify areas for improvement to benefit children.
- Babies and very young children settle quickly into the nursery and form firm attachments with their key persons and other staff. Staff are vigilant in keeping children safe and secure. Children become comfortable and confident in the environment.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents comment on the genuine care and the constant feedback that the team provides. They feel supported to help their children develop and achieve.
- Staff provide children with many interesting resources. Children explore and use their senses in play. For example, children bang on drums and ring bells during music time.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The leadership team does not use staff supervision to support newer staff effectively in their daily practice to build on young children's learning.
- Staff do not consistently use opportunities to challenge young children's developing skills to help them make even more progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use supervision more effectively to provide more support and help newer staff to consistently build on all young children's early learning
- create more opportunities to consistently challenge all young children to enhance their developing skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors, and the impact that staff's interactions with babies and very young children had on their learning and development.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including children's records, regulatory documentation, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector and the manager evaluated the effectiveness of outside play together.
- The inspector took account of the parents' views and comments.
- The inspector held discussions with staff.

Inspector

Gwendolyn Andrews

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The leadership team has up-to-date training and confidently explains to staff the procedures in reporting concerns for young children to protect their welfare. The leadership team creates a vigilant culture within the staff team to keep children safe. Staff share the rigorous policies and procedures with parents, and staff implement them effectively to guide their good practice. The manager has high expectations for herself and her staff team. She has good evaluative skills and implements improvement plans, which help to raise the quality of the care and education continually to improve outcomes for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff understand that babies learn through their everyday experiences. They are responsive to young children's interests, giving them confidence to explore and become interested learners. Staff give babies lots of time and encouragement to try new things. They build on older children's ability to walk to develop their physical skills. For example, they teach children to balance on the stepping stones and experience how their bodies work. Good role modelling from the staff helps children to see how to treat others. For example, staff teach children the simple golden rules, such as 'kind hands' when playing alongside their friends. Staff track children's progress and plan next steps for their key children that extend their development and help them to flourish.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff use a good settling-in process that helps children to feel confident and secure. They are very attentive to all children. Staff are adaptable in their approach to the daily routine and encourage children to become independent as quickly as possible. For instance, older children learn to drink from cups with no lids, and try to put on their own shoes and jackets when going outside. Staff get down to children's level to offer encouragement and support to help them achieve what they set out to do. Staff help children learn to keep safe. For example, they give simple explanations when children are moving around the outdoor area on the bikes, and when playing with the sand.

Outcomes for children are good

Babies and young children settle well into the nursery. They make good progress from their starting points. Children learn to investigate and explore the world around them with confidence. For example, they use many resources in the indoor and outdoor environments that offer new opportunities to learn how things work. Babies and young children develop good physical skills. They master walking and learn to balance on more challenging equipment, such as stepping stones and wheeled toys. They behave well and learn to play and share toys with their friends.

Setting details

Unique reference number	109923
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	1061200
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	0 - 2
Total number of places	9
Number of children on roll	11
Name of registered person	St. Joseph's Child Care Group
Registered person unique reference number	RP911079
Date of previous inspection	11 November 2013
Telephone number	01252 350583

St Joseph's Nursery registered in 1987. The day nursery is situated in the grounds of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School in Aldershot, Hampshire. It is open weekdays from 8am to 5pm. The nursery offers care for babies and young children aged six months to two years. There are four members of staff; of these, one holds a qualification at level 6 and two have a qualification at level 3.

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