

St Patrick's Montessori Nursery School

91 Cornwall Rd, London, SE1 8TH



Inspection date

5 January 2017

Previous inspection date

22 February 2013

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

- Staff provide an extremely positive, safe and welcoming environment for children and parents. Staff have exceptionally strong partnerships with parents, which help to support children's well-being and ongoing learning in the setting and at home. Staff are committed to developing and maintaining these successful partnerships. Parents praise the wealth of information they receive.
- The manager is highly ambitious and uses a variety of methods to evaluate. She sets extremely high standards and staff successfully rise to this challenge. Staff have an excellent understanding of how children learn and know individual children very well.
- Staff enthusiastically use their extensive knowledge and experiences to provide highly stimulating activities to help children make excellent progress from their starting points.
- Staff carry out extremely detailed monitoring of children's progress. They carefully track progress, which helps them swiftly identify where there are gaps in children's learning. Staff work closely with other professionals to plan for children's sustained progress.
- Children are exceptionally enthusiastic learners. For example, they confidently select and use resources and they learn to write their names. Staff plan meticulously and group activities successfully meet all children's learning needs.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary. They are very caring and kind to each other. Older children explain behavioural expectations and happily demonstrate these as they play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop even more opportunities for younger children to take part in sensory activities to help them explore the marks they make.

Inspection activities

- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed children as they played and took part in routines in all areas of the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, children, parents and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documentation including children development folders, tracking records and staff files.

Inspector

Lesley Hodges

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an excellent understanding of their role in safeguarding children and how to identify extreme views and behaviours. The manager diligently completes thorough recruitment and induction procedures to check the suitability of staff. All staff are committed to continuous improvement. For example, the manager identified that planning for mathematics needed further improvement, staff took part in training and successfully implemented new methods of teaching. Staff enthusiastically explain how they have focused on improving this area of learning and have successfully increased children's mathematical development even further. The manager and senior staff also complete reviews which, for example, help to identify ways to increase opportunities to extend children's independence skills, such as at meal times.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff make accurate assessments of children's learning and skilfully plan an excellent range of highly motivating activities. Staff support all children's next steps in learning exceptionally well. For example, they meticulously plan thoroughly engaging small group sessions to help children extend their concentration skills. During these activities staff professionally follow planned programmes and have an excellent understanding of the philosophy behind the sessions. Staff are highly skilled in supporting babies' emerging communication development. For example, babies respond very positively and delight in making sounds and repeating words. Staff are researching even more ways to provide exciting sensory activities for young children to extend their skills further.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are emotionally secure and build extremely close bonds with staff. Children show excellent levels of empathy for each other's needs. For example, older children helped a younger child who was upset and explained what happened to a member of staff. Children greet each other warmly and they have an excellent understanding of the safety and behavioural rules. For example, they very confidently explain that they walk in the nursery in case they fall over. Children skilfully serve themselves nutritious foods and enjoy an excellent range of exciting play and physical activities in the outside area. Staff accompany children as they move through the nursery and enable them to be familiar with staff and children. This helps children to be extremely secure in their new surroundings.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are highly inquisitive and very enthusiastic learners. Babies and toddlers very confidently voice their delight, for example, as they play and explore. Children gain excellent mathematical, reading, writing and independence skills that help prepare them exceptionally well for the move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	144712
Local authority	Lambeth
Inspection number	1061493
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	66
Number of children on roll	100
Name of registered person	Radius Educational Services Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP907090
Date of previous inspection	22 February 2013
Telephone number	0207-928-5557

St Patrick's Montessori Nursery School registered in 2001. It operates from a converted Victorian building in the Waterloo area of London. The nursery employs 31 members of staff. Of these, 22 hold appropriate early years qualifications, including one with qualified teacher status. The nursery incorporates Montessori teaching alongside the Early Years Foundation Stage. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for children aged three and four years.

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