St Mary's (Battle) Nursery Ltd



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

Inspection date	26 April 2017
Previous inspection date	9 June 2016

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assess	sment	Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and v	velfare	Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff interact well with children and extend their learning. For example, they intervene at appropriate times to question children and encourage them to experiment and try out new skills. Children make good progress in their learning.
- Staff competently observe and assess children's ongoing progress. They ensure that children engage in activities that reflect their interests and identified learning priorities.
- Children settle easily and are happy and confident. They show a strong sense of belonging and emotional security.
- The management team has made considerable improvements since the previous inspection. For example, the team has established effective systems that enable it to monitor and coach staff on a regular basis and improve their skills.
- The manager has improved the quality of the provision for physical development. For example, the effective use of funding is giving children new and exciting opportunities to be active and build on their already strong physical skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently encourage all parents to share what they know about their children's abilities when they start at the nursery to help identify starting points and inform planning.
- Staff do not consistently make the most of the organisation of resources to build on children's ability to make choices and develop their play independently.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the good partnerships with parents and involve them more consistently in establishing children's starting points on entry to the nursery
- provide further opportunities for children to choose resources independently to extend their play experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities indoors and in the outdoor area.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and other staff.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to at the inspection.
- The inspector sampled children's learning records and other relevant documentation.

Inspector

Alison Weaver

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management team ensures staff have an up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding procedures and a good understanding of what to do if they have a child protection concern. Children are benefiting from staff's increasing skills. For example, all staff have completed behaviour management training since the previous inspection. They are now more consistent in the way they help children manage their feelings and behaviour in an acceptable way. The management team competently monitors and reviews children's progress. The team makes sure that every child, including those who speak English as an additional language, makes good progress in relation to their starting point. The management team and staff evaluate the nursery effectively and successfully identify areas for further development. For example, staff have improved snack times and increased children's independence. Children now see to their own needs, such as pouring drinks and cutting up fruit.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff actively engage and motivate children. For example, staff challenged children as they played and sensitively made suggestions of how they could develop their ideas when playing at a water tray. They praised children when they had a go themselves, saying, 'I like that idea'. Staff skilfully build children's imagination and language skills. For example, when playing with a pirate boat, staff encouraged children to describe what the pirates were doing and what was happening. Children responded well and confidently shared their ideas.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff form a strong relationship with children and their parents. The key person for each child works closely with parents to meet children's individual needs. There is a good two-way exchange of information that contributes to children's welfare and ongoing progress in learning. Staff provide a caring and relaxed environment where children feel at ease. Children move around freely and independently in a safe environment. They behave well and show consideration to others. For example, they cut up fruit and shared it with their friends. Children also shared resources with adults when playing at a water activity.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learn skills that prepare them for a successful move on to school. They see to their own personal care needs well. Children have good social skills and like to join in activities with their friends. They initiate play and make decisions with confidence. Children concentrate at activities and engage in play with a purpose. They communicate effectively and are willing to have a go and work things out for themselves. Children also readily approach adults for help. They show respect and value differences in others.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY446956

Local authority East Sussex

Inspection number 1095692

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - 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 24

Name of registered person St Mary's (Battle) Nursery Limited

Registered person unique

reference number

RP531626

Date of previous inspection 9 June 2016

Telephone number 01424 772128

St Mary's Nursery (Battle) Limited registered in 2012. It operates from a church hall in Battle, East Sussex. The nursery opens from 8am to 5pm on Monday to Friday, for 48 weeks of the year. The nursery employs five staff. The manager has early years professional status. The deputy has a qualification at level 4 and another member of staff has a qualification at level 3. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years.

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