

St Nicholas Church Pre-School



St Nicholas Church Centre, Elm Park, Hornchurch, Essex, RM12 4RA

Inspection date	10 November 2017
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 manager and staff are vigilant about the safety and well-being of the children. Potential risks within all areas of the nursery are identified and minimised. The manager ensures that staff-to-child ratios are high and maintained effectively at all times.
- Staff use their knowledge effectively to promote the learning and development of all children. They make accurate assessments of children's progress and identify next steps for children's individual development.
- Staff are kind and caring and effectively help children to feel safe and self-assured. They manage children's behaviour well and staff sensitively support children to manage their feelings and develop friendships.
- The quality of teaching across the nursery is good and, in some instances, outstanding. Communication between staff and children is warm and expressive. Staff listen carefully to what children have to say and engage them in meaningful conversations. Children are encouraged to use and extend their vocabulary with confidence.
- Self-evaluation practices are effective and includes the views of staff, parents and children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the very best use of opportunities to help children learn about the importance of nutrition and physical activity to help them feel good and stay healthy.
- At times, the organisation of some group activities does not help all children to fully benefit from the good learning opportunities available.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of group activities so that all children can make the most of the good learning opportunities offered
- extend children's knowledge and understanding of healthy lifestyles to support their well-being.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children taking part in a range of activities, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with staff and observed their teaching.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children to take account of their views.
- The inspector viewed a wide range of documentation, including staff suitability checks, children's development records and attendance registers.

Inspector

Christine Lamey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of the procedure to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare and are aware of the relevant bodies to report to. The manager has introduced an electronic observation and planning system that has supported staff to communicate more effectively with parents and to track children's learning individually, and in groups. Parents speak highly of the setting and the care and attention given to their children, they welcome the daily feedback both verbally and online. All staff complete a wide range of training courses, which helps them to maintain the good teaching standards. For example, recent training regarding developing practice for pack-away settings has enhanced the overall learning opportunities for the children. The manager works closely with other professionals to gain ideas to support and develop the older children's literacy, in readiness for school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support young children's communication skills effectively, such as through modelling language and encouraging them to join in rhymes at song time. Staff support children to learn about the written word around them. For example, they read the label on an orange juice bottle and identify letters on the computer. Staff support children who have special educational needs well. For example, small group sessions target specific areas of children's learning to help them to develop a good understanding of mathematical terms, such as, in, over and behind. Children display a can-do attitude and persevere for long periods of time to reach their goal. For example, they concentrate hard as they work out together how to engage cogs and wheels to make them all turn at once.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff take children on various outings, for example, they walk to the library and regularly visit the forest and park areas where children get to experience nature first hand. They collect leaves and bark and bring them back to the setting to explore with magnifying glasses. They take great interest in the photographs they have included into the albums from the outings and gleefully find each other and excitedly talk about their adventures. Children are well behaved and they understand boundaries, for example, older children are able to recall the nursery rules for being kind to each other. Staff maintain children's safety at all times through good supervision. Children know how to keep themselves safe. For example, they know not to run indoors and to take extra care when climbing up the steps to the climbing frame in the garden.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make consistently good progress in their learning for their age and stage of development. They attain a wide range of skills that helps to prepare them well for their future learning, including school. All children have plenty of opportunities to be creative during the day. They enjoy painting with water and making creations with a wide range of readily available resources such as glue, paper and shiny shapes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY489320
Local authority	Havering
Inspection number	1014124
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	42
Name of registered person	Dawn Samboer
Registered person unique reference number	RP514449
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07780201874

St Nicholas Church Pre-School registered in 2015. The setting is situated in Hornchurch in the London Borough of Havering. The nursery operates from 9.15am until 3.15pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and from 9.15am until 12.15pm on Mondays and 12.30pm until 3.30pm on Wednesdays, term time only. The setting employs seven members of staff, of whom, two members of staff hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 3 and four members of staff hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 2. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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