

St Michaels Nursery

Windmill Community Centre, Messenger Road, SMETHWICK, West Midlands B66 3DX



Inspection date	30 October 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable

Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- Children make good progress from their starting points. Staff effectively use observations and assessments of children to plan for their individual progression and provide enjoyable activities.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff effectively support parents in extending their child's learning at home. For example, parents borrow toys and equipment from the nursery, and staff regularly share information with parents about their child's progress.
- Children form positive relationships and strong bonds with staff. They readily approach staff for cuddles and reassurance. This helps to ensure that children's individual care and emotional needs are effectively met.
- Staff make effective use of the spacious premises. They ensure that children have plenty of opportunities to explore and that the environment is welcoming. Staff complete regular risk assessments of the premises to keep children safe.
- Children enjoy extending their creative ideas. They talk to each other and describe to her what they are doing when they play in the home corner. Children use a wide range of materials when decorating cakes to take home with them.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff do not fully support children to develop their mathematical understanding and language.
- The organisation of some group activities does not always provide enough opportunities for younger children to be even more engaged in learning activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on all opportunities to extend learning opportunities for children to develop their understanding of mathematics
- support staff to use their good teaching skills to extend and challenge younger children's play and learning even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching indoors. She looked at some of the children's assessment records and staff planning documentation.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager during the inspection.
- The inspector held discussions with staff about their roles and assessed their understanding of meeting the requirements of the early years foundation stage.
- The inspector conducted and evaluated a joint observation of an activity with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their opinions.

Inspector
Susan Rogers

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff attend safeguarding training and have a clear knowledge of how to respond to concerns regarding a child's care and well-being. There are robust recruitment and vetting procedures to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Staff professional development is well supported through supervision sessions, staff meetings and guidance to improve staff practice. The manager and staff monitor children's individual progress and quickly identify any emerging gaps in their development. Staff communicate frequently with teaching staff at the school that children attend, to provide continuity in children's learning and development. There are clear action plans in place to drive forward further improvement. The manager exchanges ideas for positive practice with other settings in a further drive to improve outcomes for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan stimulating activities to meet children's interests. Children enjoy cooking activities. They work well together, learn to use different tools, and take turns to stir the mixture and weigh the ingredients. Staff provide opportunities for children to use their imaginations well. For example, children play independently in the home corner and all children decorate cakes with a Halloween theme using their own ideas and imaginative resources. Staff effectively promote children's literacy skills. Children are encouraged to choose books they like to read. Staff support children well to understand the story and develop their communication skills. Children discuss what they see in the book and talk about their home lives with each other.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well. They make lasting friendships, take turns and are kind to each other. Carefully planned meals and snacks promote children's understanding of a healthy lifestyle. Staff make the most of the spacious premises to plan physical activities that are challenging and enjoyable for the children. Children learn about their wider community. They enjoy outings to the local area and enjoy social outings further afield that include their parents. Children are happy to take responsibility and help to tidy away activities after play and cooking activities. They follow good hygiene routines and experience sociable snack times and mealtimes.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are happy, make good progress and play well with their friends. They are well motivated and are eager to learn. Children communicate well and learn how to problem solve as they build structures with large interlocking bricks. They respond well to questions and ask their own questions, which develops their curiosity. Children enjoy using pens and paper to develop control when writing and making marks. Children are well prepared for the next stage in their learning and as they move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY537040
Local authority	Sandwell
Inspection number	10059538
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	1 - 9
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	27
Name of registered person	Watson, Albert Nathaniel
Registered person unique reference number	RP514856
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	0121 558 3446

St Michaels Nursery registered in 2016. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and the manager is qualified at level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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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