

St Matthews Montessori School

St Matthews Church Hall, North Common Road, London W5 2QA



Inspection date	13 June 2019
Previous inspection date	9 September 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

This provision is good

- The provider has a clear vision for the setting. Staff are valued and involved in the continuous evaluation of their practice. This enhances staff skills and supports professional development.
- Staff provide a supportive learning environment that stems from children's interests. They know children's starting points and monitor their progress in order to identify any gaps in their learning. Children make good progress towards the next steps in their learning and development.
- Children gain the opportunity to learn about people and the communities beyond their own experiences.
- Parents are provided with details about children's progress. They are given the opportunity to share information to support children's settling in and individual learning.
- The key-person system is well established and this helps children form secure attachments, aiding them to be confident learners and promoting positive behaviour.
- Although children have regular access to the outdoor space, staff do not consistently ensure that outdoor activities are well organised. As a result, some children do not always have the opportunity to participate in engaging activities when outdoors.
- Children are supervised during lunchtime, however staff do not always interact fully with them at this time.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the opportunities for all children to explore and learn outdoors
- increase the opportunities for positive engagement with children during lunchtimes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the acting manager.
- The inspector observed children's play and learning both indoors and outdoors, and reviewed a sample of the records of children's progress.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with both the acting manager and the provider, and sampled some key documentation.
- The inspector spoke with parents and took account of their views.

Inspector
Marcia Tatham

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff complete relevant safeguarding training. As a result, they have a sound knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse that may raise a concern relating to children's welfare. They understand the procedures to follow to keep children safe. Performance management is good and helps to monitor staff practice. Support is given for both new and established members of staff. This helps them to understand their roles in supporting children's learning and to maintain safe practice. With the support from the local authority advisory team, targets are continuously set to improve the learning environment. The provider and acting manager have made improvements since the last inspection. For example, they have obtained a varied range of resources, particularly to support role play. The provider and staff check and monitor the progress of each child and that of different groups of children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, the quality of teaching is good. Resources are thoughtfully used to enable children to explore and use their imagination. For instance, they have fun as they pretend to be hairdressers. Staff respond sensitively to children's interests. For example, children show a fascination with vehicles and the staff extend this interest by building a transport area. Children show delight when experimenting with mixing different coloured paints to see what emerges. Staff take children to the library where they are encouraged to choose books. Children show enjoyment when their chosen books are read enthusiastically by the staff. Storytelling helps to capture children's interest and promotes their language skills. With the support of staff, children are developing their computer skills. Parents and carers are confident to share information about their children, which helps staff to effectively assess children's learning and development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are clear and consistent in their expectations of children's behaviour. Children are caring towards each other. They demonstrate positive behaviour during routines, adult-led and children-initiated activities. Children are learning about a range of festivals. For example, they celebrate Chinese New Year and Eid. Parents and carers are encouraged to become involved and contribute. Children learn about people beyond their experiences and gain an understanding of the wider community. For example, children and their families contribute groceries to the local food bank. During imaginative play children learn to share resources. They listen attentively during story time and learn to take turns when using the computer. Staff have built strong relationships with children where they feel secure and confident.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are learning to work collaboratively, for instance during preparations for sports day. Children are making good progress and developing the skills for transition to school or the next stage of their learning. They develop their independence through having access to a good range of play opportunities and daily routines. Children are acquiring good mathematical skills, for example while participating in computer session activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY344600
Local authority	Ealing
Inspection number	10106709
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	23
Name of registered person	Willow Tree Education Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP526646
Date of previous inspection	9 September 2015
Telephone number	07956 228 959

St Matthews Montessori School registered in 1982. It operates from St Matthew's Church, Ealing Common, in the London Borough of Ealing. The nursery is open each weekday from 9.15am to 3.15pm, during term time only. It receives government funding for the provision of free early education to children aged three and four years. There are six staff employed to work with children, five of whom have appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery follows the Montessori method of teaching.

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