

Inspection of Little Angels Nursery

St Aidans Church Hall, Crompton Way, BOLTON, Lancashire BL1 8UP

Inspection date: 15 October 2021

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are well cared for by the staff in this nurturing and close-knit nursery. Babies and toddlers develop caring relationships with their key staff and settle quickly when they arrive each morning. Children are learning to manage their emotions and are supported in this by the attentive staff team, who act as good role models. There are lots of opportunities for physical play. Children squeal with excitement as they practise kicking and throwing balls. Children take managed risks as they challenge themselves by negotiating uneven stepping stones and balance beams when playing outside. This helps to develop their coordination and balance. Children also demonstrate their resilience as they persevere if they do not initially succeed. Toddlers confidently explore their environment independently, showing great curiosity in seasonal resources. Children develop the muscles in their hands as they persevere using tweezers to pick up conkers, as they practise counting how many they have collected. Pre-school children are challenged in their learning as they begin to learn the sounds that letters represent and make more precise and meaningful marks on a variety of materials.

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, staff are providing children with even greater support to help their speech and language development.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Staff get to know the children and their families well. They gather detailed information about what children know and can do, their interests, and any additional needs before they start at the nursery. As a result, children's transition when starting at the nursery is a positive one. This helps them to feel safe and secure with the knowledgeable staff team. This approach also ensures that staff are immediately able to plan appropriate learning opportunities so that children make the best possible progress.
- Staff are trained in specific strategies to help the development of communication and language for those children most in need of support. Notably, these skills are used with all children, meaning that all children progress well from their starting points in this area of learning. For example, very young children say, 'on my hands' showing staff they are covered in paint after an activity. Older children express themselves confidently and chat away with each other during their play. Staff have acted on the recommendation from the previous inspection and now consistently give children sufficient time to respond to questions. This further promotes children's thinking and speaking skills.
- In the main, staff promote children's independence effectively. For example, children confidently help themselves to resources and construct obstacle courses when playing outside. However, staff do not always notice when children are ready for further challenge to develop their growing independence. For example,

they peel older children's fruit and feed toddlers when they are clearly capable of doing these tasks for themselves.

- Parents comment positively about the care their children receive at the nursery. They say that staff provide them with lots of information about how their children are progressing. Also that they get lots of hints and tips on how to support their children's learning at home.
- Staff teach children about good manners and appropriate behaviours, such as sharing and taking turns. In turn, the children behave in this way with each other. For example, children initiate their own play as they create ball games. They also show consideration to their friends, for example, by helping them to catch the ball. As a result, all children are proud of their accomplishments.
- Leaders continue to work closely with other specialist professionals to support children's individual needs. They act decisively and ensure close collaboration with parents in such matters. This ensures that children get the best possible support at the earliest point.
- Staff talk positively about the strong team ethos and the support they receive from leaders. Staff receive feedback, which helps them to improve their practice. Staff are happy and their workload is manageable.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff and leaders have a secure understanding of the procedures to follow if they have a concern for the welfare of a child in their care. They are knowledgeable about potential indicators of abuse and are alert to changes in circumstances that might increase children's vulnerability. Staff and leaders know what to do if an allegation is made against a colleague. The safety of the nursery environment is checked on a daily basis to ensure that there are no undue risks to children. The premises are secure and an accurate record of children's attendance is maintained. This means that children are safe in the nursery and staff have a clear record of the children present in the event of an evacuation.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- enhance staff knowledge and understanding to consistently help children to build on their growing independence.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY366742
Local authority	Bolton
Inspection number	10113786
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 at time of inspection	1 to 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	27
Name of registered person	Jackson, Karen
Registered person unique reference number	RP513816
Telephone number	01204 306228
Date of previous inspection	7 June 2019

Information about this early years setting

Little Angels Nursery registered in 2007. It is situated in the Bolton area of Lancashire. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, seven hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 or above. The manager holds early years teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for one week in May and two weeks in August. Sessions are between 8.30am and 4.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Richard Sutcliffe

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the provider, staff, and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The provider and deputy manager completed, and discussed, joint observations with the inspector.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from both verbal and written feedback.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.

We carried out this inspection 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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