

Inspection of St Michael's Nurseries Ltd

76 Blurton Road, London E5 0NH

Inspection date: 1 December 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
------------------------------	-------------

The quality of education	Good
--------------------------	-------------

Behaviour and attitudes	Good
-------------------------	-------------

Personal development	Good
----------------------	-------------

Leadership and management	Good
---------------------------	-------------

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding
--	-------------

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children enjoy learning with their friends at this nursery. They chat happily with each other and staff. Children are confident talkers. Children of all ages use challenging language in their play. They learn to make longer sentences and ask questions. Children feel safe and happy. They have strong relationships with managers and staff. Children greet staff with cuddles and ask them when they need help. Children feel valued and listened to. They learn to share and take turns. Children learn to think about the feelings of others, and they behave well.

Children learn new words. Staff are skilful at teaching children new vocabulary. For example, when children make pretend biscuits from the dough, staff ask them to make them 'smaller'. Children repeat new words that staff use. They say, 'rolling, rolling, rolling,' as they roll out the dough. Children choose what to make out of the dough, for example, they comment that they have made a 'bone'. Children receive praise when they have a go. They demonstrate pride in their achievements and develop good self-esteem.

Children learn about numbers. They learn to add numbers together on their fingers. Children work out challenging mathematical calculations. For example, they say, 'Ten and four is fourteen.' They draw their numbers on whiteboards. Children learn to recognise numbers and put them in order.

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

- The managers are very knowledgeable about child development. They support staff to understand how children learn. For example, all staff are trained to ask questions and wait for a response. They use ambitious language to speak to children.
- Managers and staff plan a varied and exciting curriculum. They observe and assess children to check what they know. Staff use this information to plan activities for children which challenge them. This helps children to be well prepared for the next stage of their education.
- Managers and staff understand that children need time to develop skills. They know that using a variety of tools will help them to develop physical skills. However, sometimes, staff provide activities that are not challenging enough for all children. Children do not consistently have opportunities to keep trying when they find things difficult, to fully develop their resilience.
- Staff support children's language particularly well. They speak clearly to children. Staff ask questions to encourage children to think and solve problems. For example, when children make sandwiches, staff ask them if the jam is 'smooth' or 'slimy'. They encourage children to talk about the shapes they will cut their sandwiches into. Children respond with their own ideas. They explore cutting

and folding the bread into different shapes. Staff use language to extend children's learning further.

- Parents are happy with the care that their children receive at the nursery. They report that children make friends and enjoy going to nursery. Parents say that children develop strong relationships with their key person and other staff.
- Partnerships with parents are generally strong. However, not all parents are clear about what information they should expect from the nursery. This means that parents do not always fully benefit from opportunities to extend their children's learning at home.
- Children sleep in a calm and peaceful environment. Staff have developed a familiar routine that allows children to rest. Children wake up when they are well rested. Friendly staff ask them what they want to do next. Children are happy and ready to learn.
- The manager and staff are reflective of their practice. They plan regular opportunities to access training to further develop their knowledge. This helps staff to support children's learning and development.
- The manager and staff teach children about other cultures outside of their own. Children learn about a wide variety of cultures, such as through exploring festivals, dress and music. They eat foods from around the world. Staff understand that this helps children to understand and respect each other's differences.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff have a strong understanding of safeguarding. They know how to keep children safe. Staff regularly conduct risk assessments of the indoor and outdoor environments. They know the warning signs that children may be at risk of harm. Staff know how to report their concerns to the relevant authorities. Managers and staff understand their responsibility to keep their safeguarding knowledge up to date. Managers regularly plan training to ensure that all staff understand current safeguarding issues.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- develop opportunities for children to practise their physical skills to support their perseverance and resilience further
- strengthen communication with parents so that they receive clear information about their children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY270205
Local authority	Hackney
Inspection number	10234747
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	0 to 4
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	20
Name of registered person	St Michael's Nurseries Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP907058
Telephone number	0208 9852886
Date of previous inspection	12 January 2017

Information about this early years setting

St Michael's Nurseries Ltd registered in 2003. The nursery operates from a church hall in Clapton Park in the London Borough of Hackney. It is open from 8am until 6pm, every weekday, for 50 weeks of the year. The nursery employs five members of staff; of these, two hold early years professional status, and two staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery provides funded early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Kate Daurge

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider 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 provider.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of communication and language activities with the manager.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2022