

Inspection of Knights Templar Community Church School and Nursery

Liddymore Road, Watchet, Somerset TA23 0EX

Inspection date: 10 May 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Young children are warmly greeted by caring staff and they separate from their parents with ease. They eagerly explore and show high levels of curiosity. For instance, children investigate pine cones and balls of ice while adults talk to them about what they feel like. Children develop confidence in their physical abilities, as they climb, balance and learn to navigate steps. They beam at visitors as they achieve these tasks, showing pride in their accomplishments.

Children form trusting attachments with the staff. The kind and attentive staff give children praise for waiting, sharing and being kind. Staff teach children the importance of using 'gentle hands' so that they learn the effects of their actions on others. Children are extremely responsive to the staff and they behave very well for their age.

Young children benefit from a curriculum that has been created with their needs in mind. Experienced and knowledgeable staff understand how to assess each child's progress and development and how to use the curriculum to move them on in their learning. All children make good progress and are well prepared for the next stages in their learning. The setting shares information with parents about their children's progress, and offers guidance on how to support their children's learning at home.

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

- Staff are very good role models for communication and language. They consistently talk to children. They narrate young children's play, ask questions to ignite their interest and introduce vocabulary as they name animals, colours and numbers. This supports the development of children's understanding of language.
- Young children routinely join in with song time. They sit in small groups and choose songs they would like to sing using picture cards. Children show how familiar they are with the songs as they anticipate the actions. Staff spontaneously introduce familiar songs as children play. This delights young children and they begin to join in with some of the words of the songs.
- The manager of the setting intends for young children to gain in confidence in this room before they move up through the nursery and the school. She wants children to develop independent skills. At times though, staff do things for children that they may be able to start learning to do for themselves. For example, staff put on children's coats before going out to play.
- Staff show the highest respect for young children as they attend to their personal care routines. They ask permission to change children's nappies. Staff gently talk to children as they change their nappies, and children show how safe and secure they feel.

- Partnerships with parents are strong. The setting knows how important it is to build trusting relationships with parents in order to provide consistent support for children. Parents are very happy with the care their children receive. They are kept updated via regular communication from the nursery. Parents describe the staff as 'wonderful, dedicated and very approachable'. They are confident that their children love coming to the nursery and have good bonds with the staff.
- Young children enjoy regular fresh air and exercise and they are supported to have a healthy diet. They choose what fruit they will eat at snack time. However, staff use wet wipes to clean children's hands at mealtimes. This means that young children are not learning about important hand washing routines.
- Long standing and newer members of staff alike report how much they love working at the nursery. They feel well supported by the manager and each other. They work very well together to create a nurturing and positive environment for the children. Staff attend training to ensure ongoing high-quality teaching.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders follow robust recruitment procedures to ensure that staff are suitable for their roles. Child protection training is completed by all staff members and regularly reviewed at staff meetings. The manager and her staff are all confident in recognising signs that a child may be at risk from harm. They competently use the school's online recording log, and know how to report any concerns they may have. Staff strictly follow procedures for managing allergies, recording accidents and administering medicine.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- support children to learn to do manageable tasks for themselves to help develop their independence skills
- ensure children have the opportunity to learn the importance of handwashing in their daily routines.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY488355
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	10279836
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 2
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	25
Name of registered person	Knights Templar Community Church School and Nursery
Registered person unique reference number	RP534526
Telephone number	01984633429
Date of previous inspection	21 September 2017

Information about this early years setting

Knights Templar Nursery registered in 2006 and re-registered in 2015, when governance was taken over by Knights Templar Church of England and Methodist First School. The setting operates from a purpose-built building in the grounds of the school in Watchet, Somerset. The nursery is open each weekday, from 8am until 5pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery is registered to care for children aged under two years and also cares for older children as part of the school registration. The nursery is in receipt of funding to provide early education. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, for 49 weeks of the year. The nursery manager holds a level 3 qualification. There are four members of staff employed to work with the children under two years of age. Of these, three hold level 3 qualifications and one is training to gain a level 3 qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Den Russell

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection of the nursery since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and has taken that into account in her evaluation of the setting.
- The manager and the inspector went on a learning walk across all areas of the setting used by the youngest children and discussed how the early years provision and curriculum is organised.
- The manager and the inspector jointly observed and evaluated an activity.
- The manager discussed the leadership of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector spoke to children and staff throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to parents and read their statements to gather their views.

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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