

Inspection of Nightingales Nursery

St. Francis Xavier College, Malwood Road, Wandsworth, London SW12 8EN

Inspection date: 10 January 2024

Overall effectiveness **Good**

The quality of education **Good**

Behaviour and attitudes **Good**

Personal development **Good**

Leadership and management **Good**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Staff create a calm and inclusive environment. They welcome children and their parents warmly at the nursery. Staff are very caring and give children lots of cuddles and reassurance to help them to settle in quickly. This practice empowers children and gives them a great deal of emotional security. Staff teach children how to look after themselves. For example, they gently remind children to take turns when using the play equipment, including outdoors, to minimise accidents. Children learn how to play safely.

Staff give children's happiness the highest priority. One of the ways they do this is by delivering a curriculum that children enjoy and which teaches them important skills. For example, staff read lots of stories to children, which further develops their love of books. Staff who work with babies are very good at engaging them in sensory play. This motivates babies to play well. Staff provide children with plenty of opportunities to practise and extend their early writing skills. Over time, particularly the older children have learned to write their name with confidence. They display strong early writing skills. In addition, children gain good levels of mathematical concepts. They show this, such as when they count their toys without needing help from staff.

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

- The manager evaluates her practice rigorously to identify strengths and where further improvements could be made to build on existing good practice. She sets high expectations for the children. For example, since the last inspection, the manager promotes children's independence skills from an early age. She is keen for all the children to do as many age-appropriate tasks for themselves in preparation for school.
- Staff work hard to form strong relationships with parents. They provide parents with relevant information to promote continuity for their children's care and education. Parents tell the inspector that staff are particularly kind, caring and sensitive professionals. This gives parents, including those who are new to the nursery, high levels of confidence in staff.
- Staff observe and assess children's learning to help plan an ambitious curriculum. This enables children, including those who speak English as an additional language, to make notable progress from their starting points. In some areas, such as language and literary skills, some children are making significant progress. Older children, for example, use a wide range of vocabulary and express themselves articulately. However, staff do not plan and sequence the outdoor curriculum as effectively as possible. This prevents staff from supporting children's physical development to the highest level.
- Staff follow good hygiene procedures consistently. They encourage children to

wash their hands before eating to stop the spread of germs and infectious illnesses. The supervision of children is good, including at mealtimes. However, staff do not always make good use of opportunities to teach children about food and the impact this has on their bodies.

- Staff manage children's behaviour well. They talk to children about sharing and how to express their emotions appropriately. This helps children to relate more positively to their peers and adults.
- The manager ensures that staff have up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding matters. She offers them regular training and talks to them about indicators of neglect and other types of abuse. Staff are alert to changes in children's behaviour and if they have unexplained absence. In such circumstances, they know what to do and how to escalate their concerns to protect children's welfare.
- Staff report that they receive good levels of support from the manager. They have completed rigorous recruitment checks to ensure their suitability to work with children. There are opportunities for staff to develop their knowledge and skills. For example, they have benefited from learning about gender stereotypes and the impact these have on children. Following this, staff facilitate more play activities that promote children's awareness of similarities and differences between people.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- increase support for staff to help them to plan and sequence the outdoor curriculum more effectively
- build on children's understanding of the benefits of having a healthy lifestyle.

Setting details

Unique reference number	123175
Local authority	Wandsworth
Inspection number	10307971
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	20
Number of children on roll	19
Name of registered person	St. Francis Xavier College
Registered person unique reference number	RP522463
Telephone number	020 8772 6056
Date of previous inspection	20 March 2018

Information about this early years setting

Nightingales Nursery registered in 1994 and it is located in the London Borough of Wandsworth. The nursery is open from 8am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, for 51 weeks a year. There are six staff members, including the manager, who holds early years professional status. The remaining staff members all hold a level 3 qualification in early years. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Marisol Hernandez-Garn

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the nursery 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 manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of the nursery and discussed their early years curriculum. They observed a planned activity in pre-school and evaluated the impact of this on children's learning.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors. She talked to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- Parents shared their views of the nursery with the inspector, which were taken into account. Some parents also left written feedback for the inspector to read.
- The inspector checked the required documentation, such as staff training and suitability records.

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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