

Church Lane Nursery

St Michael's Church Hall, Church Lane, Brighton, West Sussex, BN42 4GD



Inspection date	25 June 2015
Previous inspection date	24 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff use innovative methods to teach children to manage their own risks. For example, they carry out their own risk assessments in the garden using a photographic checklist. This means that children have a highly impressive understanding of how to keep themselves safe.
- Staff support imaginative play exceptionally well. They effectively challenge children's ideas during their play so that they remain focused and extremely motivated.
- Staff have impressive knowledge and understanding of how children learn to communicate. Staff plan highly exciting group games that encourage children to develop their thinking, speaking and listening skills in a very effective way.
- Staff have an excellent understanding of individual children's needs. They give sensitive support and have impressive knowledge of every child so they ensure that all children receive the help they need to do well.
- The manager is inspirational and leads by example, sharing her knowledge of how children learn with the staff. Staff flourish with her guidance and with the training they receive. Children make outstanding progress with staff who know when to lead their play, when to support their play and when to encourage them to play independently.
- Staff ensure that children are prepared for school in an exceptional way. They accompany children and families to numerous settling visits. Individual plans for children's move ensure that they can settle quickly when they start school.
- Partnership working with parents is extremely good. Key persons involve parents fully in all aspects of their child's development. Regular meetings and updates about progress mean that all adults understand the priorities for children and can work together to help them achieve their potential.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- further develop the use of reference books to support children's understanding of the world around them.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in all nursery play areas.
- The inspector spoke to all staff members about their roles and about their responsibility to keep children safe.
- The inspector spoke to parents and grandparents and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity in the garden with the nursery manager.
- The inspector looked at a range of documents including policies, procedures, staff information and children's learning journals.

Inspector

Rebecca Swindells

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

Staff observe what children can do and use what they see to precisely assess progress and make plans for future activities. This means staff skilfully match activities to children's needs. Staff facilitate children's ideas whilst reminding them about keeping themselves safe. Consequently, children have ambitious plans for games but make choices about what is safe and what is not. Staff speak politely to children and listen to the things they say. As a result, children learn to communicate effectively and chat with friends as they play. Children have good physical skills because staff provide abundant opportunities for them to practise. Staff develop children's literacy skills very well by giving them frequent opportunities to practise reading and writing. Children learn to use an excellent range of mathematical names, such as for shape, size and position because staff teach them new words and ideas as part of their games. Staff challenge children's knowledge of the world around them. However, staff do not enhance their learning using reference books.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Children are extremely secure and happy because they have excellent relationships with their key person and other staff. Staff are exceptional role models and manage children's behaviour consistently and gently. They use what they know about children's individual needs to support them emotionally when they are upset. Staff skilfully encourage children's confidence by praising their efforts and celebrating their achievements. Children play very well together and staff encourage them gently to share and take turns. As a result, the atmosphere is calm and busy with all children absorbed in activities. Children learn about healthy lifestyles because staff continuously remind them how to look after themselves. Children show high levels of independence. They go to the toilet on their own and decide themselves when to eat their morning snack.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

The manager diligently monitors staff's assessments and planning for children closely. Consequently, she knows what the priorities for children are. She uses her impressive knowledge to ensure that they receive the support they need. The manager recognises good teaching and is able to identify areas for improvement. This means that staff receive training that enhances the provision for children. The manager is highly reflective and regularly share ideas. Staff welcome contributions from parents and they work tirelessly to put good ideas into practice. Therefore, the quality of teaching is constantly improving. The manager uses robust recruitment to ensure the suitability of staff. Staff attend regular safeguarding training and their comprehensive understanding protects children well. Partnerships with parents and other professionals are outstanding. This has a significant impact on children because everyone works together to help them do well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY420744
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1010662
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	50
Name of provider	Tracy Diane Vise
Date of previous inspection	24 May 2011
Telephone number	07712 701720

Church Lane Nursery is a long established provision that re-registered in 2010. The nursery operates from a church hall in Southwick, West Sussex. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, term time only. It opens from 9.15am to 12.15pm each day, with drop off offered from 9am, plus Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons from 12.20pm to 3.20pm. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four. The nursery employs seven staff including the manager. Six staff members hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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