

The Nursery at St Pauls

St. Pauls Church, Dock Street, London, E1 8JN



Inspection date

11 February 2015

Previous inspection date

2 September 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff actively support children communication and language skills during activities and at routine times. This helps children to discuss past experiences and express their feelings.
- Children receive lots of warmth and affection from staff. This supports their emotional well-being and develops their self-confidence.
- Staff and visiting teachers read to children frequently. As a result, children benefit from joining in with reading sessions and looking at books alone and with others.
- Staff support children to learn important social skills that help them to form and maintain friendships with others.
- Staff plan and organise mealtimes well. This creates a social occasion where children can sit comfortably and talk with staff and their friends.
- The manager has addressed actions set at the last inspection. She implements an effective process of self-evaluation in order to continuously improve outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff miss opportunities to encourage children to independently manage their personal care needs by ensuring necessary items are accessible to them.
- Staff do not always ensure that toddlers have access to a range of suitable resources to further extend their awareness of different cultures, people and the wider community, particularly in the role-play area.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- promote children's self-help skills further by ensuring they have access to necessary items to help manage their own personal care needs with ease
- improve opportunities for toddlers to explore suitable resources that reflect diversity to develop their awareness of similarities and differences between themselves and other people, cultures and the wider community.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the manager and key persons.
- The inspector viewed the areas used by the children and observed the staff interacting with them.
- The inspector sampled some documents, including children's learning record, risk assessments, the accident and complaints records and observation reports.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Jennifer Liverpool

Inspection findings

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

Staff have a good knowledge of children's development when they start at the nursery. They obtain key information from parents to build on children's existing skills. Staff regularly assess children's abilities and extend their learning experiences by planning purposeful activities. Consequently, children are progressing well because staff effectively meet their individual interests and learning needs. Staff encourage babies to explore all of their surroundings to further develop their interests. For example, babies use their senses to feel natural materials and listen to different sounds. However, toddlers have fewer multicultural resources in the role-play area to extend their understanding of differences and similarities between themselves and others. Children enjoy exploring different textures outdoors, such as the soil and sand. Children benefit from seeing numbers in books and posters, which helps them to learn to recognise and use numbers. Consequently, children are acquiring the skills they need for their future learning at school.

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

Staff obtain information from parents about their children's care routines and development. Therefore, children develop trusting relationships with staff and to feel secure. Staff regularly observe sleeping children and ensure that they sleep safely through effective organisation of the space and regular risk assessments. Children receive a varied range of healthy foods, including chicken, fish, fresh fruits and vegetables to promote healthy eating habits. However, staff do not always place items, such as tissues within children's reach to further encourage them to manage their self-care needs. Children enjoy physical play, for example, indoor music and movement sessions and daily outdoor exercise. Staff effectively share information with parents and are developing positive links with local schools to support children's move to full-time education.

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

Staff have a secure knowledge of the procedures to safeguard children and know how to proceed if they have any concerns about a child. The manager has put good security systems in place to prevent unauthorised visitors accessing the premises. She ensures staff are deployed well and children are always supervised indoors and outside, particularly when using large play equipment to keep them safe. Staff have a secure understanding of the relevant policies to help safeguard children, including the procedures for reporting accidents. The manager uses robust recruitment systems to ensure all staff are suitable to work with children. She actively encourages staff to undertake training and contribute to regular professional development sessions. As a result, staff have a good understanding of current childcare practices.

Setting details

Unique reference number	119622
Local authority	Tower Hamlets
Inspection number	990139
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	120
Number of children on roll	89
Name of provider	Selective Learning (Maidstone) Ltd
Date of previous inspection	2 September 2014
Telephone number	020 7265 0098

The Nursery at St Pauls registered in 2001 and is managed by Selective Learning Ltd. It operates from a converted church in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The nursery opens each weekday from 7am to 7pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The provider is registered on the Early Years Register, and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three, and four years old. The nursery employs 33 staff who works directly with the children. Of these, 29 hold an appropriate early years qualification, including three with an equivalent qualification at level 6 and two staff with Qualified Teacher Status. The provider also employs a cook and housekeepers.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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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