

St Aidans Nursery

The Vicarage, St. Gregorys Crescent, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 4JL



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| Inspection date | 20 May 2015 |
| Previous inspection date | 10 May 2011 |

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Good | 2 |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|----------|
| | Previous inspection: | Good | 2 |
| 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

- The quality of teaching is good because staff understand how to support children's learning. They allow children to organise their learning independently, extending children's ideas as appropriate. Consequently, all children make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff have good relationships with parents. This enables staff to share information about children's progress and achievements so parents can further support their children at home.
- The management and staff are aware of child protection issues and procedures. They engage with outside agencies to promote the safety and welfare of children.
- Staff create a safe and secure environment for children through checking the environment daily in order to minimise hazards to children. Therefore, this promotes the well-being and safety of children.
- Staff help children to understand the importance of keeping healthy. They ensure that children play outside daily and provide a good range of resources to enable children to develop their physical skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always ensure that all group activities support children's interest. This means that, occasionally, a small number of children do not fully participate at these times.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation and resources available during group activities to increase younger children's engagement and interest.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children interacting, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the supervisor and reviewed the quality of teaching and learning.
- The inspector spoke to parents, children and staff.
- The inspector sampled the required documents, including staff qualifications, policies and procedures and staff suitability checks.
- The inspector discussed the provider's self-evaluation process.

Inspector

Alberta Minta-Jacobs

Inspection findings

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

Staff support children's learning and development through careful planning. They regularly observe, assess and plan a wide range of activities and learning experiences that motivate and engage all children. Staff ensure that children benefit from a mixture of adult- and child-led activities that support their interest. They extend children's learning, indoors and outdoors. Staff are experienced, skilled and knowledgeable, and they are deployed well to support children's learning. They take a step back and observe and intervene when appropriate to extend and challenge children's learning. Therefore, children make good progress in relation to their starting points. For example, during a child-led activity, staff developed children's skills in reading. They learnt initial sounds and letters of objects. Therefore, the quality of teaching is good and children are ready for the move to school.

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

Staff promote children's well-being and emotional development effectively. The key-person system is well embedded, which enables children to feel safe and secure and enjoy their time. They develop their independence and confidence through attending to their personal needs, making choices and leading their play. Staff encourage children to use their imaginations through exploring the stimulating environment. Children learn the good social skills that they will need for school and the next stage in their learning because staff plan effectively for their personal, social and emotional development. This has a positive impact on children's behaviour. Staff provide a choice of healthy snacks and drinks. Therefore, they help children to lead healthy lifestyles.

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

The provider has a robust understanding of the legal requirements. All required policies and procedures are shared with staff and parents, therefore, promoting a safe environment for children. Regular supervision and professional development sessions help the management and staff to monitor children's progress and identify staff's training needs. The staff are encouraged to keep their knowledge about childcare practices up to date by attending regular training. This supports the quality of teaching and learning and promotes good outcomes for children. For example, staff have enhanced children's communication through attending training on how to effectively communicate with children. The management seeks the views of parents, children, staff and professionals in order to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the provision. Therefore, management shows the capacity to continuously improve the provision for children.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | 127571 |
| Local authority | Kent |
| Inspection number | 840672 |
| Type of provision | Sessional provision |
| Registration category | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Age range of children | 0 - 8 |
| Total number of places | 26 |
| Number of children on roll | 40 |
| Name of provider | St Aidans Nursery Committee |
| Date of previous inspection | 10 May 2011 |
| Telephone number | 07715 337825 |

St Aidans Nursery registered in 1979. The nursery operates from a large room in a church hall in Gravesend, Kent. It opens from 9am to 12 noon, Monday to Friday, term time only. The nursery is in receipt of funding to provide free early education for two-, three-, and four-year-olds. It employs six members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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