

St Mary's Nursery Group

The Bungalow, Shaw Lane, Albrighton, WOLVERHAMPTON WV7 3DS



Inspection date	31 January 2019
Previous inspection date	16 November 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Highly effective leadership, excellent partnerships with parents and a mutual pursuit for excellence shared by the whole staff team lead to outstanding outcomes for children.
- The board of trustees is highly motivated and supports the manager astutely to use self-evaluation to help drive continuous improvement. There are excellent monitoring systems in place to ensure parents and their children receive a high quality service.
- Teaching is inspirational and staff are extremely creative in their approach to help engage and motivate children to learn.
- Staff rigorously monitor children's progress to help them make significant progress from their starting points. They swiftly identify any gaps in children's learning and provide excellent interventions and support to close these gaps rapidly.
- Staff provide tailored guidance and information to parents about the precise ways they can support their children to make significant gains in their learning.
- All children are valued as individuals and staff have an exceptional understanding of each child's backgrounds and needs.
- Staff provide an innovative range of opportunities to engage children in a rich range of activities to help them learn about the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle.
- Staff place a high priority on getting children ready for school and there are excellent systems in place to help support transition when children move on to school.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue the excellent work to enthuse children's interest even further in grouping objects, three-dimensional shapes and money in order to help maintain their rapid progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during indoor and outdoor activities, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and two of the trustees. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at the nursery during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Parm Sansoyer

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The trustees play a highly active role and work extremely closely with the manager to help monitor the quality of teaching and the care provided. The manager is exceptionally successful in inspiring the staff team to work towards meeting and sustaining ambitious targets. For example, together they have identified there is scope to provide an even richer range of opportunities for children to explore grouping objects, three-dimensional shapes and money. Staff benefit from high-quality staff supervision sessions, coaching and training to ensure they have a deep understanding of how to deliver highly challenging activities. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are vigilant about children's safety and have an excellent understanding of child protection issues.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff quickly capture children's imagination and promote their enthusiasm for learning by using an excellent range of resources. For example, staff meticulously prepared the environment so that when children arrived they discover a 'crime scene' and had to work out why a favourite children's character had fallen off the wall. Staff skilfully incorporate highly motivating literacy and mathematical learning at every opportunity. They place an extremely high focus on providing open-ended resources and teaching children new words, concepts and ideas through all their interactions. For example, outdoors, staff followed the children's interest extremely well as they built a pretend igloo from bricks and filled it with ice and pretend penguins. Staff skilfully helped children to recall what they had learned about igloos and the Inuit people, and encouraged children to estimate and use mathematical language.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff provide excellent first-hand experiences for children to learn about food and where it comes from. For example, staff use the weekly 'food explorers' session to provide opportunities for children to taste various cultural foods, consider how foods change at different temperatures and learn about different methods of cooking. The weekly gardening club is used extremely well by staff. For example, staff help children learn about the life cycle of living things and how to care for fresh produce. Staff work very closely with parents and provide them with ample information about the benefits of exercise and eating a healthy diet, and how to keep their children safe. Children's behaviour is exemplary and they thoroughly enjoy the routine.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children, including those receiving additional funding, make consistently high rates of progress. Children are extremely well prepared for school. For example, children show high levels of interest and self-control during activities, and confidence in social situations. Children express delight and wonder during activities. For example, children followed the elephant's footprints around the room and eagerly hunted for the other pretend body parts to create the elephant. Children know they can retrieve further information about their interests from computers and books, and they show a real passion for learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	224192
Local authority	Shropshire
Inspection number	10065796
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	19
Name of registered person	St Mary's Nursery Group Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP908697
Date of previous inspection	16 November 2015
Telephone number	01902 375 533

St Mary's Nursery Group registered in 1982. It operates from a bungalow in the grounds of St. Mary's Church of England School in Albrighton. The nursery opens five days a week, from 9am until 3.30pm, term time only. It receives funding for the provision of free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery employs six members of staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 5, one holds a qualification at level 4, three hold a qualification at level 3 and one is unqualified.

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