

Inspection of Bainton Road Nursery

Bainton Road, Oxford OX2 7AF

Inspection date:

14 February 2025

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

The nursery managers are inspiring. They are very passionate about the nursery and doing the very best they can for the staff, children and families. Managers and staff strive to provide the highest quality care to enable children to achieve the best possible outcomes. They place children at the heart of anything they do to ensure their needs always come first. Children thrive in this caring, dedicated nursery. Managers develop a highly ambitious curriculum for all children. Alongside staff, they plan engaging activities, which children eagerly join in with. For example, children are very excited to act out their favourite stories in the garden. They recall and repeat familiar parts with great enthusiasm. Behaviour is exemplary. Children are kind to others and offer help, such as holding their peer's hand when they struggle to climb tyres outdoors.

Partnership working is exceptionally strong. Managers and staff build trusting relationships with families. Parents comment that the nursery is part of their extended family. They say children love sharing their stories and learning with their wider family who often live overseas. Managers and staff also work very closely with other professionals. This is to ensure all children receive the additional support they need in a timely way. They secure additional funding to enable them to effectively give targeted close support to children who need it.

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

- Managers share their vision and curriculum intentions with staff through meetings and being present in the rooms daily. The curriculum is based on play and children's current interests. Their ultimate intention is to foster a love of learning, songs, stories and books. Managers have high expectations of staff and children. The curriculum is securely embedded through the nursery. All staff know and understand the curriculum and intentions for individual children's learning. This enables them to teach effectively and ensure children make rapid progress and any gaps close swiftly.
- Staff know all the children and their families incredibly well, especially their key children. Staff's interactions with children are very strong. Staff give children time to think and share their ideas and answers. They skilfully wait so children can think and respond to questions, such as asking what happens next in a story. They adapt their interactions guided by what they know about individual children, for example, giving less confident children the space they need to engage. Staff do their absolute best to ensure children thrive and make the progress they are capable of.
- Staff gather relevant and extensive information from parents when children are settling into nursery life. Managers and staff fully embrace and focus on children's individual needs and what they need to transition into the care of the

nursery. They recognise this is an important time for children to build attachments with key staff. The key person seeks detailed information from parents about children's experiences before attending nursery and their current development. Staff then use a comprehensive baseline assessment to decide on a learning focus for each child. This enables them to plan precisely for children's ongoing learning and development.

- Staff expertly promote children's speaking and listening skills. They seamlessly teach children new words as they play and take part in daily routines. Staff use simple signs to support their communication with children, who also use these naturally from a young age. Staff provide children with opportunities to develop a love of books, and they read to the children throughout the day. There is a lending library of books and story sacks, which children can take home and share with their parents. Children make very good progress with their communication and language skills.
- Managers are very reflective and aware of their own strengths and areas where they could improve even further. They prioritise professional development for themselves and the staff team. This enables them to build knowledge and skills and support improvements in teaching and outcomes for children. Managers act as fantastic role models for staff and children, spending time working directly with children for part of each day. This also helps them to closely monitor staff practice and to support anyone needing a little extra guidance.
- Children's home languages are continuously celebrated and valued. Staff encourage children to use these alongside English. Staff learn key words and basic counting in children's home languages and use this as part of their daily interactions with them. Children enjoy counting in their home languages and also those of their peers. Staff invite parents to help them create books with photos and information about ten key things from their home country. This helps children to talk about their culture and to feel valued and respected.
- The arrangements for special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are robust. Managers and the staff team have an excellent understanding of how to refer children to the right agencies. This helps them get the support and intervention they need. They work very closely with parents and other professionals to ensure this happens in a timely way. Parents report that they are delighted by the support given to them and their children, particularly when seeking a diagnosis or applying for an education, health and care plan. This supports children with SEND achieve the best possible outcomes.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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

Setting details

Unique reference number	2698576
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	10368323
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	St John the Baptist College in the University of Oxford
Registered person unique reference number	2698575
Telephone number	01865 557895
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Bainton Road Nursery re-registered in 2022. They operate from a purpose-built provision in the grounds of St John the Baptist College, at the University of Oxford. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, from 8.30am to 5.30pm, 48 weeks of the year. There are 10 staff employed, eight of which hold a recognised early years qualification at level 3. The manager holds qualified teacher status. The nursery provides government funded early education places for children aged from nine months to four years. They are also in receipt of funding for disadvantaged children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Clare Perry

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Children told the inspector about their friends and what they like to do when they are at nursery.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- Staff spoke to the inspector about how they support children with SEND.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a small-group activity with the manager.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector, both verbally and in writing.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with the manager and deputy about the leadership and management of the setting.

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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