

St Leonards Day Nursery

St Leonards Church, Langley Crescent, Sheffield S5 7NZ



Inspection date	26 March 2019
Previous inspection date	19 January 2016

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff work in close partnership with parents to help children make a positive start to their learning. They promote a shared approach to children's care and learning. Parents speak warmly of the guidance and support they receive.
- Staff accurately assess children's achievement and stage of development. They identify any gaps or delays in children's learning. They are proactive in seeking any additional support children require and work well with other professionals. They make good use of any additional funding for children.
- Staff plan stimulating activities based on children's interests to engage them and promote their further learning. For example, children have many opportunities to explore their sensory experiences through blowing and chasing bubbles or handling objects hidden in sand and water.
- The nursery staff have good relationships with other settings. They prepare children well for the next stage of education and help them make a smooth transition to starting school.
- The manager and senior staff are strongly focused on constantly enriching the quality of provision. They make good use of training, including working towards higher level qualifications, to evaluate and improve teaching and learning.
- Occasionally, the organisation of group activities limits children's opportunities to be active and fully engaged in their learning.
- Staff do not consistently help children to reinforce and enrich the vocabulary they are developing.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider the organisation of group activities to ensure children are actively and fully engaged in their learning
- strengthen staff's teaching strategies to more consistently reinforce and extend the development of children's vocabulary.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed joint observations with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and provider. He looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to children and members of staff.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Andrew Clark

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Procedures to protect children are implemented successfully and staff have a good understanding of how to keep children safe. Robust recruitment checks ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children. The manager works well with the staff team, other professionals and parents to identify areas for further improvement. The manager makes good use of regular analysis of children's achievement to support future planning. This has led, for example, to improvements to the teaching and resourcing to raise standards of mathematical awareness and vocabulary. Additional funding is used effectively to support the learning needs of disadvantaged children. This is helping to narrow gaps in outcomes.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Communication skills are promoted well overall. For example, staff encourage children to use their creative mark-making and drawing skills to identify their special friends and to talk about them with staff and each other. Older children begin to recognise and write familiar letters in their names when they register at the start of the sessions. Staff stimulate children's imagination through, for instance, well-told stories and participation in action rhymes and songs. They encourage children to count and order numbers. Staff regularly share children's achievements and success with parents and provide many opportunities for them to be involved in their future learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle well and are happy and confident in their play. Staff are strong role models and promote consistently high standards of behaviour. They make good use of praise and rewards to help children manage their own emotions effectively. They encourage children to be kind and play cooperatively. Good health and hygiene awareness is promoted through everyday routines. For example, children participate in a daily teeth cleaning project to promote their dental health. The staff provide tasty and well-balanced meals for children who stay for a lunch. Children enjoy daily outdoor play in all weathers where they develop their physical skills. They learn to stay safe as they balance, climb or play catching and throwing games.

Outcomes for children are good

Overall, children learn to make decisions about the toys they play with and organise their own games. They show pride in their achievements and demonstrate high self-esteem. This helps them to become confident individuals and successful learners, including children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. They enjoy each other's company and make firm friendships. Children are learning to respect and embrace each other's differences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	300739
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	10072755
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	51
Name of registered person	Moore, Susan
Registered person unique reference number	RP512781
Date of previous inspection	19 January 2016
Telephone number	0114 242 2466

St Leonards Day Nursery registered in 1995. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff, six of whom hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. One member of staff holds a level 5 early years qualification. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 8.30am until 5.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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