

St Mary's Family Centre Day Nursery

Our Lady of Fidelity, 147 Central Hill, London, SE19 1RS



Inspection date

17 April 2015

Previous inspection date

1 April 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- Children have good relationships with staff. Key persons work closely with parents to meet children's needs.
- Staff have a clear understanding of how children learn and are able to provide a range of stimulating activities. They continually assess children's learning to help all children make good progress.
- There are effective systems for self-evaluation. Managers take account of the views of parents and children when deciding on areas to improve.
- Staff teach children about good hygiene practices. Children enjoy healthy snacks and meals, and have plenty of opportunities to develop their physical skills and to enjoy playing outside.
- The managers carry out regular staff supervision to monitor practice and identify training needs. This helps to continually raise the quality of teaching.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently use questions to extend children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's thinking skills by asking them questions which require them to think about their answers, to consistently extend their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the nursery, inside and in the garden.
- The inspector observed the children and noted the views of the parents.
- The inspector read through a selection of documents, including policies and safety procedures.
- The inspector spoke to the managers, chair of committee and staff.
- The inspector observed some activities and carried out a joint observation with one of the managers.

Inspector

Karen Callaghan

Inspection findings

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

Staff provide a broad range of activities to promote children's learning and development. Children independently choose from a wide range of toys and resources. Children enjoy the stimulating activities that staff provide. For example, younger children go on a minibeast hunt and observe how insects and animals move and where they live. Older children learn how to write their name and start to recognise the sounds of letters. This helps them to develop skills ready for starting school. All children have fun using their imaginative skills to act out familiar stories. The garden has a wide range of resources that enables children to practise their physical skills. Children enjoy riding around on bicycles and climbing and sliding on the well-maintained play equipment.

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

The environment is safe and welcoming for all ages with a variety of clearly labelled resources for the children to pursue their own interests. Attractive displays with photos of staff, and family books with photos of the children help them to develop a sense of belonging. Children's own art and written work are valued and celebrate a range of stories, which supports children's language development. Staff give plenty of praise and build children's self-esteem. This helps children to learn to respect each other and behave appropriately.

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

Managers have a good understanding of their responsibilities and a range of clear procedures and policies to support children's health, safety and well-being. Checks on the quality of teaching, planning and assessment are rigorous which results in individual children's needs being fully met. Questionnaires show that the majority of parents value the nursery and praise it highly. Parents are encouraged to review and to add comments to their children's learning journals. The manager has robust systems to check that staff are suitable to work with children. Regular training ensures that staff understand child protection procedures and act appropriately to safeguard children. Managers have contact with local school teachers, which helps children to make successful moves into local schools.

Setting details

Unique reference number	125042
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	937542
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	28
Number of children on roll	42
Name of provider	Our Lady of Fidelity Established at Upper Norwood, London
Date of previous inspection	1 April 2009
Telephone number	0208 766 6271

The nursery registered in 1992. It is part of St Mary's Family Centre, set within private grounds and owned by Our lady of Fidelity Convent. The nursery operates five days a week, from 9am to 3.30pm, term time only. The nursery provides free early education for children aged two, three and four years old. There are currently five staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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