

St. Margarets Nursery School



St. Margarets C of E Primary School, The Mardens, CRAWLEY, West Sussex, RH11 0AQ

Inspection date	21 May 2015
Previous inspection date	28 January 2009

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

- Children have many opportunities to make choices about their play. Staff encourage them to select activities and where they want to play. Children confidently try new ways of doing things and staff join in sensitively to extend their learning.
- Staff encourage children's language development well. They make effective use of questions to develop conversations.
- Children benefit from excellent opportunities in the outdoor area. Staff complement and extend children's learning in the natural environment.
- Managers complete very good evaluations and identify areas for improvement. The prompt actions staff take create ongoing enhancements to the learning environment for children.
- Managers provide strong support for all staff to develop their learning and skills. They have a good programme for professional development that consistently improves staff skills and outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At home time parents collect their children from the main entrance area so they do not see them engaged in activities and find out first hand what they have been learning. Children are unable to proudly show their parents what they have been doing so they can share their experiences and extend the learning at home.

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 of the children's collection time to further develop partnerships with parents so they can be fully involved in their child's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had discussions with parents, staff and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed activities indoors and outside.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspectors sampled a range of documentation including policies and procedures, children's records and the nursery school's self-evaluation.

Inspector

Jill Steer

Inspection findings

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

Children are very busy and occupy themselves productively. They are keen to explore and delight in their time outdoors. Children eagerly built ramps with planks, logs and tyres to balance on and cooked meals in the mud kitchen oven. Many children enjoy learning to write. They ask staff how to form letters in chalk on the ground and with pencils and pens on paper and clipboards. Staff know when to join in and when to observe. They point things out, such as the measuring marks on containers for water and the smells of lemon balm and mint. They explain that these herbs smell and taste good but need water to grow. Staff track and monitor children's progress. They identify and set realistic targets for children's next stage in learning. They assess children's progress regularly and adjust the planning to reflect children's interests. Staff talk to children about starting school and arrange visits with their new teachers. Children make good progress in their learning and gain the skills they need so they are ready for school.

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

Children have strong relationships with staff and build many friendships with other children. They play cooperatively in groups, are considerate, and share and take turns. They spend time alone as they happily engage and explore activities. Children settle-in very well, are confident and feel safe and secure. The staff organise the wide range of resources well. This means children know exactly where to find things and make choices in their play. Staff are skilful at helping children to understand and follow the rules. They praise them with rewards such as, super stamps on their hands, which they proudly show off. Children behave well. Children enjoy long periods of time outside and eating healthy snacks. Children, who stay for lunch, sit together with staff and discuss the value of the food they are eating. These activities that staff plan contribute to children's good health.

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

Managers have high expectations of themselves and the staff. They are an established team who work in unison. They monitor children's progress by completing regular reviews. They work closely with parents and other professionals to ensure any gaps in children's learning are closing. Managers clearly understand the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They ensure that staff understand their responsibilities to protect children's welfare and how to report any concerns. They carry out daily checks to minimise risks in the environment, which helps to keep children safe. Managers use effective evaluation tools to identify the strengths and weaknesses in practice. For example, they have provided more experiences in the garden where many boys prefer to play to further promote their mathematical development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY372285
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	829275
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	64
Name of provider	St Margarets C of E Primary School Governing Body
Date of previous inspection	28 January 2009
Telephone number	0129 3521077

St Margaret's Nursery School registered in 2008 and is managed by the Governing Body of St Margaret's school. It operates from the grounds of St Margaret's School in Crawley, West Sussex. The nursery is open each weekday from 8.30am to 4.30pm for 48 weeks each year. There are eight members of staff, six of whom hold early years qualifications to at least National Vocational Qualification Level 3. One member of staff has achieved Early Years Teacher Status and one has Qualified Teacher status. The nursery receives funding for free early education to children aged two, three and four years.

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