



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 155051

DfES Number: 522928

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	10/03/2004
Inspector Name	Sandra Wickham

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Leytonstone Children's Day Centre
Setting Address	1 Snowberry Close London E15 2AH

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	London Borough of Waltham Forest
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### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	London Borough of Waltham Forest
Address	Sycamore House, PO Box 416 Forest Road Walthamstow London E17 4SY

## ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality and standard of day care in accordance with the National Standards for Under Eights Day Care and Childminding; and that the nursery education for funded three and four year old children is of an acceptable quality. Inspection of nursery education also identifies strengths and weaknesses so that providers can improve the quality of educational provision and help children to achieve the early learning goals (elgs) by the end of the Foundation Stage. This inspection report must be made available to all parents.

If the setting has been inspected previously, an action plan will have been drawn up to tackle issues identified. This inspection, therefore, must also assess what progress has been made in the implementation of this plan.

### Information about the setting

Leytonstone Children's Centre is run by London Borough of Waltham Forest and registered in 1992. The nursery operates from the ground floor premises of a residential building that is self contained. There are four main base rooms for children. The areas accessible include, the entrance hall, four play rooms, children's toilets, wheelchair/ scooter accessible toilet, kitchen, general office and managers office, staff room and an outside play area. The centre also keep pets on the premises, three budgies, and one gerbil.

The nursery is close to local shops, parks, and London transport, and serves a diverse community. There is adequate parking available for the safe collection of children. The nursery operates all year round, Monday to Friday 08:00 until 18:00.

There are currently 80 children from 0 to 5 years on roll. This includes 27 funded 3-year-olds and 9 funded 4-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently have no children attending with special needs, but have children who speak English as an additional language.

All staff working within the nursery have a relevant qualifications and experience relating to their post.

The Centre also receives support from the Early Years Partnership.

### How good is the Day Care?

Leytonstone Children's Day Centre provides good quality care for children. The manager and staff are qualified, experienced and work well as a team, with good relationships with the children developed. They have a clear understanding of the groups policies and procedures and implement them well. All the required records are in place and stored to ensure confidentiality. The group offer a well-resourced, children centred, and organised environment with daily routines. Although the pre school room for the children over three years lacked organisation.

Staff give good attention to health and safety issues and good hygiene practices are evident and encouraged in children. Most staff are first aid trained and clear procedures are in place should a child become ill or have an accident. The premises are safe and attention is given to children's awareness of potential dangers. Staff have a good understanding of how to implement equal opportunities in practice and develop children's awareness and respect for differences.

There is a good range of play materials and stimulating activities indoor and outdoor, that cover all areas of children's play and learning. Staff know children well and give good support, ensuring children's progress in all areas. Interaction from staff is good and children interact and play well with their peers.

Parental involvement in the group is activitively encouraged. Staff have developed, professional relationships with parents and regular feedback is provided on all aspects of the children's care.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

Not applicable.

#### **What is being done well?**

- A wide range of interesting activities for children is provided, good support is given by staff to encourage children's thinking and problem solving skills.
- Interaction with the children is good and as a result the children are confident learners.
- Staff adapt the management of behaviour to the individual needs of the children, they set clear, consistent boundaries for children so they know what is expected of them.
- Clearly written policies and procedures are understood by staff and the parents and they are well implemented.
- Staff have a professional relationship with parents and there is a good daily exchange of information.

#### **An aspect of outstanding practice:**

Very good use of the garden, that encourages, and extends children's creative skills to express themselves in a safe environment, and learn about living things.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- the systems for organising space to meet children's needs.

#### **Outcome of the inspection**

Good

## CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION

*All registered persons must comply with all conditions of registration included on his/her certificate of registration.*

*As a result of this inspection conditions of registration have been imposed / varied / removed and a new certificate of registration will be issued.*

## WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?

### **The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection**

Std	Recommendation
2	Review and update the operational plan to include clear information on how space organised to meet needs of children over three.

## INSPECTION OF THE NURSERY EDUCATION PROVISION FOR FUNDED THREE AND FOUR YEAR OLDS.

### How effective is the nursery education?

Leytonstone children's day nursery provides a friendly, welcoming, environment where children learn through a range of well planned and stimulating activities. Children are making very good progress in all areas of learning. They are happy and motivated to learn.

Teaching is very good. Staff have a good understanding of the early learning goals. They use a variety of teaching methods to promote children's learning. There are well planned opportunities for children to initiate their own learning by self selecting activities that interest them. Children also work in small groups with the qualified teacher at various times throughout the day. Staff make good use of everyday routines to consolidate children's learning particularly, their mathematical understanding. The outside play area is used effectively to promote the early learning goals, activities to support all areas of learning are available outside each day. However, the large hallway currently used for soft play activities could be used to provide more opportunities for children to work in different groups and to explore books and dressing up independently. Planning is effective a good balance is achieved across all areas. Detailed records are maintained of children's progress.

The leadership and management is very good. The manager has a clear vision for the development of the nursery. She works closely with her staff, she uses this time to support staff and evaluate working practices. The well established staff team work well together, they have specific roles and responsibilities throughout the nursery. There are good opportunities for in service training, which sometimes means closing the nursery for the day.

Partnership with parents is good. They are encouraged to become involved in their children's learning by supporting activities. They are kept informed of topics and receive detailed records of children's achievements. Some parents are members of the parent, staff management committee.

### What is being done well?

- Staff have a clear understanding of the early learning goals. They use this knowledge to plan stimulating, interesting activities that encourage children to concentrate.
- Children are well behaved and confident they show independence when choosing activities that interest them and are motivated to learn.
- Relationships between staff, the children and the parents are good and there is a good system in place to share information of children's progress.
- Children's mathematical skills and understanding are being encouraged through the skilled use of every day routines and planned activities help children to count recognise number and do simple addition.

- Children listen to stories with interest and enjoy the story props used. They respond with enthusiasm when joining in the repeated lines of the story.

**What needs to be improved?**

- Use of the accommodation within the nursery to provide space for children to use books and dressing up clothes independently.

**What has improved since the last inspection?**

There were no key issues from the last inspection the nursery were required to consider: extending record's of children's attainment to cover all six areas of learning and all the learning criteria. Records should be monitored and used to inform planning. Detailed and comprehensive records are now maintained on children's progress within all areas of learning and the supporting criteria, the information gained from the records is then used to plan next steps for children's learning and to provide parents with a detailed record of their child's achievements.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's personal, social and emotional development is very good. They are happy and motivated to learn. They share and co-operate when building the train track. They concentrate for a long time at activities they have selected for themselves. Children's behaviour is very good, they are caring and supportive to each other.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

The programme for communication, language and literacy is very good. Most children know how to form letters accurately, they write shopping lists and copy their names from name labels. Story sacks are used effectively to encourage children to listen to stories. Children are confident speakers, expressing their ideas freely. The letter of the week is used well by staff to help children recognise letters and the identify the sounds letters make.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are making very good progress in their mathematical development. They are starting to do simple calculations when predicating in number rhythms and songs. They practice simple addition in every day routines. There are many opportunities for children to sort, match and order using practical equipment. Children read numbers using the number line and use mathematical language when filling containers and when playing at the water tray.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

The programme for children's knowledge and understanding of the world is very good. The story of the three billy goats gruff is used well to develop children's skills at designing, building and constructing bridges. They make predictions when making pancakes and using the water tray. Children have good opportunities to learn about different cultures and beliefs when celebrating festivals and events. They find out about caring for living things when caring for the nursery pets.

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are making very good progress within the programme for physical development. They have many good opportunities to use tools and small equipment, pencil sharpeners and scissors which they use confidently and safely. Children use the outdoor space well manovering around objects while pedalling their bikes or pushing pushchairs. Every day routines are used well to develop children's understanding of keeping healthy and healthy eating.

<b>CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT</b>	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children are making very good progress in their creative development. A good range of activities and resources are available each day to help children express their ideas and feelings freely. They explore texture, colour and shape using ice, jelly, pasta and string. They enjoy using musical instruments and singing and dancing to taped music. Children use their imagination confidently in role play and acting out stories with small world toy's.	
<b>Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately.</b>	



## OUTCOME OF THE INSPECTION

The provision is acceptable and is of high quality. Children are making very good progress towards the early learning goals. The next inspection will take place in three to four years time.

## WHAT THE SETTING NEEDS TO DO NEXT

*There are no significant weaknesses to report, but considerations should be given to improving the following:*

- there are no significant weaknesses to report, but consideration should be given to improving the following.
- making better use of the indoor accommodation to create opportunities for children work in different groups and to use books and dressing up independently.

*The provider must draw up an action plan within 40 working days of receipt of this report showing how the key issues detailed above will be addressed. The action plan must be made available to all parents and to the Local Authority if required. An evaluation of the action taken will form part of the next inspection of funded nursery education.*

## **SUMMARY OF NATIONAL STANDARDS**

### **STANDARD 1 - SUITABLE PERSON**

*Adults providing day care, looking after children or having unsupervised access to them are suitable to do so.*

### **STANDARD 2 - ORGANISATION**

*The registered person meets required adult: child ratios, ensures that training and qualifications requirements are met and organises space and resources to meet the children's needs effectively.*

### **STANDARD 3 - CARE, LEARNING AND PLAY**

*The registered person meets children's individual needs and promotes their welfare. They plan and provide activities and play opportunities to develop children's emotional, physical, social and intellectual capabilities.*

### **STANDARD 4 - PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT**

*The premises are safe, secure and suitable for their purpose. They provide adequate space in an appropriate location, are welcoming to children and offer access to the necessary facilities for a range of activities which promote their development.*

### **STANDARD 5 - EQUIPMENT**

*Furniture, equipment and toys are provided which are appropriate for their purpose and help to create an accessible and stimulating environment. They are of suitable design and condition, well maintained and conform to safety standards.*

### **STANDARD 6 - SAFETY**

*The registered person takes positive steps to promote safety within the setting and on outings and ensures proper precautions are taken to prevent accidents.*

### **STANDARD 7 - HEALTH**

*The registered person promotes the good health of children and takes positive steps to prevent the spread of infection and appropriate measures when they are ill.*

### **STANDARD 8 - FOOD AND DRINK**

*Children are provided with regular drinks and food in adequate quantities for their needs. Food and drink is properly prepared, nutritious and complies with dietary and religious requirements.*

### **STANDARD 9 - EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

*The registered person and staff actively promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice for all children.*

### **STANDARD 10 - SPECIAL NEEDS (INCLUDING SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES)**

*The registered person is aware that some children may have special needs and is*

*proactive in ensuring that appropriate action can be taken when such a child is identified or admitted to the provision. Steps are taken to promote the welfare and development of the child within the setting in partnership with the parents and other relevant parties.*

#### **STANDARD 11 - BEHAVIOUR**

*Adults caring for children in the provision are able to manage a wide range of children's behaviour in a way which promotes their welfare and development.*

#### **STANDARD 12 - WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS AND CARERS**

*The registered person and staff work in partnership with parents and to meet the needs of the children, both individually and as a group. Information is shared.*

#### **STANDARD 13 - CHILD PROTECTION**

*The registered person complies with local child protection procedures approved by the Area Child Protection Committee and ensures that all adults working and looking after children in the provision are able to put the procedures into practice.*

#### **STANDARD 14 - DOCUMENTATION**

*Records, policies and procedures which are required for the efficient and safe management of the provision, or to promote the welfare, care and learning of children are maintained. Records about individual children are shared with the child's parent.*