

# Cherry Tree Kids Club (St Stephens RC Primary School)



St. Stephens RC Primary School, Ruskin Avenue, WELLING, Kent, DA16 3QG

**Inspection date** 21 January 2015  
Previous inspection date 11 May 2009

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Requires improvement</b>	<b>3</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Requires improvement	3
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting <b>does not meet legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Staff do not always meet the needs of all the children. They do not make expectations of behaviour clear to older children or limit the noise levels in the learning environment. This hinders young children's care and learning experiences.
- Staff do not always interact well enough with children or provide suitable activities to extend their learning from school to support children's progress fully effectively.
- The manager does not fully take account of the views of parents and children when evaluating practice and deciding the areas requiring improvement.

### It has the following strengths

- Children are happy and settle to the activities on offer. They enjoy opportunities to play indoors and outside as part of a healthy lifestyle, developing their physical skills.
- Children follow good hygiene routines. They enjoy a range of healthy snacks which promotes their good health. This helps to promote their well-being effectively.
- Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures and their role in keeping children safe from harm.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

### To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- ensure expectations of behaviour are made clear to older children, and noise levels are appropriate, to ensure the learning environment fully enables younger children to access activities and develop their play and learning effectively.

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

- develop the self-evaluation process to identify strengths and weaknesses in practice to help meet children's needs more effectively, taking into account the views of all users
- plan interesting and challenging activities to complement and build on children's learning at school.

## Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities available to children.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff at appropriate times during the inspection and held meetings with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at planning, evidence of staff suitability and the club's policies and procedures.

## Inspector

Tracey Murphy

## Inspection findings

### **How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement**

Children enjoy a range of activities indoors and outside, although staff do not always take opportunities to enhance children's learning through their interactions. The staff team know the children's interests and plan activities accordingly. However, these activities do not always complement children's learning at school. The club uses a key-person system, although children's care and learning is not fully tailored to meet the needs of the younger children. For example, older children often dominate popular toys and key staff do not always take opportunities to support the younger children effectively during this time. In addition, staff are not always consistent with their explanations to older children about expected behaviour. As a result, there are instances when older children play too noisily, which affects the learning environment for younger children at times and slows the development of their self-esteem. Despite the rising noise levels, children's behaviour is generally calm.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children requires improvement**

Staff ensure they keep children safe and have a sound knowledge of policies and procedures to help safeguard children and promote their well-being. Staff complete daily risk assessments and practise fire evacuation procedures. This helps to ensure the premises are safe and that children learn how to keep themselves safe in an emergency. Partnership with parents is sound and helps to promote children's well-being effectively. The staff team engage daily with parents, as well as when children first start at the club and are settling in. Parents are happy with the club as they find staff are friendly and their children always want to attend.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement**

The manager has some understanding of their responsibilities, and appropriate policies to support children's safety. However, monitoring of daily practice does not highlight the weakness in the routines. This is because the manager does not focus enough on the well-being of young children to make sure staff meet their needs at all times. Systems for evaluating the club's improvements are developing, although the manager does not seek the views of parents and staff consistently as part of this process. The provider uses an appropriate system for checking the suitability of staff. The club has developed an open relationship with the school and staff meet with teachers to discuss support for children. Staff regularly liaise with school teachers and support children's early reading and numeracy skills, particularly at register time and during games.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY370795
<b>Local authority</b>	Bexley
<b>Inspection number</b>	829192
<b>Type of provision</b>	Out of school provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	4 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	40
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	8
<b>Name of provider</b>	Cherry Tree Nursery GB Ltd
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	11 May 2009
<b>Telephone number</b>	0208 3037344

Cherry Tree Kids Club (St Stephens) is privately owned and operates from St Stephens School in Welling, Kent. Children have use of two rooms in the art block and the enclosed outside play area. The club originally registered in 2007 and re-registered as a limited company in 2008. The opening hours are from 7.45am to 9am and 3.15pm to 6pm during term times. All children attending the club are from St Stephens School. The club is registered on the Early Years Register, and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There is a team of 10 staff employed to work with the children, of whom eight hold an appropriate childcare qualification.

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