

# Mini Treasures Children Centre

Sultan Street, Camberwell, SE5 0XG



## Inspection date

11 February 2015

Previous inspection date

15 January 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Inadequate	4
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Inadequate	4
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Inadequate	4
The setting <b>does not meet legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is inadequate

- Managers are not thorough in checking the suitability of adults who work with children and records are not easily accessible for inspection to demonstrate whether all staff have undertaken suitability checks through the Disclosure and Barring Service. This is also a breach of the Childcare Register requirements and puts children at risk.
- Some staff do not have a sound understanding of their responsibilities to safeguard children or the procedures to follow regarding allegations against staff. In addition, some areas are not well maintained with regard to repair work and hygiene practice. These are further breaches of the Childcare Register requirements and compromise children's health, safety and well-being.
- Induction for new staff and regular supervision of existing staff is not fully supportive to help them be effective in their role.
- Not all staff understand how to interpret the areas of learning in their observations of children and focus on specific areas for young children. Some staff are not using their observations to clearly identify children's achievements and their next steps for learning to help children make good progress.
- The role of the special educational needs coordinator is not yet in place to closely monitor those children who require extra support to promote their learning effectively.
- Although outside play is part of the written daily routine, staff do not ensure babies have regular opportunities to spend time outdoors to promote their good health.

### It has the following strengths

- Staff settle children well, which makes children feel safe and happy to attend.

## **What the setting needs to do to improve further**

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

- ensure that all people looking after children are suitable to fulfil the requirements of their role and an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check is obtained in respect of every person aged 16 and over who works directly with the children
- ensure all records are accessible and available to those who have a right or professional need to see them
- ensure all areas inside and outdoor spaces are fit for purpose and comply with health and safety legislation to support children's health and safety effectively, with particular regard to the baby room and the toddlers' toilet area
- ensure that all staff know and understand how to implement the safeguarding policy, using the guidance of the Local Safeguarding Children Board, as well as understand and follow the procedures if an allegation is made against a member of staff
- improve the arrangements for induction to ensure staff have a good understanding of the responsibilities of their role, and strengthen supervision to cultivate a culture of mutual support for continuous improvement
- ensure staff make full use of all the areas of learning to monitor children's ongoing progress, paying particular attention to the development of communication and language skills for children under the age of three years
- improve the quality of teaching by developing staff's knowledge of how to effectively observe and reflect on children's achievements to enable them to identify children's next steps in learning and provide activities that challenge children to help them make good progress
- improve arrangements to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities by developing a targeted plan to support the child's future learning and development, involving parents and/or carers and other professionals
- plan more effectively to ensure all children have daily opportunities for outdoor play and activities to extend their learning.

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

- work in partnership with teachers of schools that children attend to complement learning intentions set by teachers and offer continuity in children's care and learning.

**To meet the requirements of the Childcare Register the provider must:**

- ensure that any person caring for children is suitable to work with children by obtaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check and ensure they have the skills and experience for the work
- ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks to children
- provide support and guidance, in relation to child protection matters, to any person who cares for children and ensures the safety and welfare of children.

**Inspection activities**

- The inspector observed activities in four playrooms and outdoor play.
- The inspector carried out two joint observations, one with the new manager and another with a room leader.
- The inspector checked the evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff, and sampled policies, children's records and planning documentation.
- The inspector talked to staff and took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- This inspection was carried out following the risk assessment process.

**Inspector**

Gill Cubitt

## Inspection findings

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

Staff plan ineffectively in some rooms, which means there are gaps in children's learning, resulting in variations in the level of progress for all children. Some staff lack suitable understanding of how to use the areas of learning effectively to provide all children with the support they need. Although staff carry out observations in the baby and toddler rooms, not all activities focus on the main areas of young children's development, such as language and communication. Pre-school children who attend for a full day are making progress. Staff explain how to make salt dough and test children's comprehension during the activity, which encourages thinking and problem-solving skills. Children listen to stories and challenge their physical skills outdoors. However, children attending for sessional care do not benefit from the same depth of planning to support their individual needs. Parents participate in the settling-in programme for their children and receive daily information about their routines. Parents are also invited to attend meetings to review their children's progress.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is inadequate**

Risk assessments to ensure children's safety and well-being are not used effectively. For example, staff do not monitor fridge temperatures in the milk kitchen to keep babies' food safe. In addition, babies have been unable to play in their outdoor area for many months because of the slippery floor surface, which limits their access to fresh air and exercise. Furthermore, a broken sink is still waiting for repair and staff do not ensure outdoor sandpits have appropriate covers to help ensure hygiene. Nonetheless, children learn appropriate hygiene practices through daily routines, including dressing themselves, which supports their preparation for school. They receive healthy fruit snacks and freshly made midday meals to promote their good health. Daily outdoor activities enable older children to benefit from rigorous exercise, which supports their good health.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is inadequate**

This inspection took place following a complaint raised about the nursery's safeguarding practice, staff suitability, ratios and deployment. The provider has not ensured that Ofsted is notified of significant events with regard to staff suitability. Staff checks are incomplete and induction and supervision are not robust. Consequently, some staff's safeguarding understanding is limited, which places children at risk. The children have attractive rooms but not all areas meet health and safety requirements. Poor support of staff through monitoring of the quality of teaching results in some children making inadequate progress, including children identified with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Furthermore, staff are not seeking information from local schools about children's activities to enable staff to provide extra support and consistency in children's learning. The management team is working in partnership with the local authority on an action plan to

improve, which has resulted in significant changes. However, these plans have yet to be implemented effectively to have a positive impact on the quality of provision for all children.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY449168
<b>Local authority</b>	Southwark
<b>Inspection number</b>	1005000
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	56
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	65
<b>Name of provider</b>	Mini Treasures Nursery Ltd
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	15 January 2013
<b>Telephone number</b>	07814557542

Mini Treasures Children Centre registered in 2012. It is privately owned and is one of three childcare provisions run by Mini Treasures Nursery Ltd. It operates from a purpose-built building in Camberwell, in the London Borough of Southwark. There are four rooms and outdoor play area. The nursery is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory part of the Childcare Register. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6.30pm, 51 weeks a year. The out-of-school club is open each weekday from 7.30am to 9am and from 3.30pm to 6.30pm, during school term time. The holiday play scheme is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm, during school holidays only. The provider receives funding for free early education for three- and four-year-olds. The nursery staff support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and children who learn English as an additional language. The provider employs 17 members of staff including the manager. Of these, 16 staff hold an appropriate childcare qualification, including two staff at level 6 and 12 staff at level 3.

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