

Becontree Children's Centre

Stevens Road, DAGENHAM, RM8 2QR



Inspection date 4 March 2015
Previous inspection date 1 June 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

- The provider implements the requirements effectively and staff know their roles and responsibilities in meeting the needs of the children.
- Staff develop good relationships with the children, easily promoting children's new found confidence, motivation and physical well-being.
- Since the last inspection all staff have completed relevant higher level childcare qualifications at levels 3 and 5. This demonstrates their drive for improvement, which helps to ensure all children make good progress.
- Staff are good at observing and assessing children's development and planning for their next steps in learning. Staff steadily and skilfully close any gaps in children's development.
- Staff know how to effectively follow procedures if they identify a concern about a child's welfare, ensuring children's safety and well-being.
- Staff establish strong relationships with parents, sharing ideas and promoting learning at the pre-school and at home to support children consistently.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always promote children's understanding of how physical exercise can benefit their health and well-being.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's awareness of the importance of exercise for their well-being during outdoor play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector examined a range of documentation including children's records and staff files.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents during the inspection.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed children and staff engaged in activities inside and outside.

Inspector

Caroline Preston

Inspection findings

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

Staff provide children with good learning opportunities outside in the well-resourced garden. Children enjoy running games with staff. They skilfully climb large apparatus and ride on wheeled toys, promoting their physical skills. However, sometimes staff do not remind children of the importance of exercise on their health and well-being. Staff promote children's early literacy and language skills well. They organise reading activities for children during the session. Children enjoy taking part as they discuss and answer questions about the story and look at the pictures with staff. Staff provide writing tools. As a result, children learn that print conveys meaning and they make marks with pencils. Children sit still and take turns during play and form friendships, supporting their social and emotional development. Staff promote children's creative skills effectively. They provide role-play activities such as a dentist surgery, dressing-up clothes and water and sand play. Children enjoy acting out what they know and using their imagination. Children learn to count and carry out simple addition and subtraction through activities such as counting bears.

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

Staff promote children's good awareness of healthy lifestyles, they provide children with healthy snacks such as fresh fruit, bread sticks and cheese. Staff encourage children to practise good hygiene routines, promoting their understanding of how to manage their own personal needs. Staff teach children about good behaviour. They use sand timers to help children understand about waiting their turn and sharing resources. Staff teach children about safety. For example, children know fire evacuation procedures because they practise these with staff. Staff develop children's knowledge of diversity through providing play resources that promote positive images of others in society. Staff liaise well with schools to help prepare children for school education.

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

Staff carry out robust risk assessments and minimise all hazards to keep children safe. The provider supervises and monitors staff so that they are well supported, which improves outcomes for children. All staff are suitably vetted and recruitment procedures are robust, protecting children. The provider evaluates practice to identify weaknesses and make improvements, ensuring children's ongoing progress. The staff work closely with external agencies to meet children's individual needs effectively.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY369705
Local authority	Barking & Dagenham
Inspection number	829143
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	16
Name of provider	London Borough of Barking & Dagenham
Date of previous inspection	1 June 2009
Telephone number	02087241830

Becontree Children's Centre pre-school registered in 2008. It is situated in Barking, Dagenham. The pre-school session operates Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9.15am to 12.15pm term time only. The pre-school receives funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged three and four years. The provider employs two members of staff. One holds a qualification at level 5 and one holds a qualification at level 3.

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