

Cass Child & Family Centre

St. James's Passage, Dukes Place, London, EC3A 5DE



Inspection date

6 May 2015

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision

This inspection:

Good

2

Previous inspection:

Not applicable

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

- Staff at the day care provision effectively implement the setting's policies and procedures and, therefore, successfully safeguard children's welfare.
- Children's progress from their starting points on entry is good. This is because staff monitor children's progress across all areas and use this information well to plan next steps in their learning.
- The manager's efficient deployment of staff ensures the careful supervision of the children and their safety at all times.
- Staff encourage babies' and young children's creativity further as they provide activities and resources to support their interests.
- The provider and manager offer staff regular opportunities for professional development through supervision and training. This has had a positive impact on children's learning and development.
- The manager and staff have built up effective partnerships with external agencies in order to access guidance and further training opportunities, to promote children's development and learning further.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, some staff are not always consistent in encouraging children's self-help skills, particularly at lunch times. This slightly reduces opportunities for children to be independent on these occasions.
- Babies have fewer opportunities to use a suitable range of resources, in particular wheeled toys, to explore different movements and extend their physical skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further the range of resources for babies, indoors and outdoors, so that they can explore different ways of moving to extend their physical skills
- promote children's self-help skills further during mealtime routines to prepare them for the next stages in their development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the provider and the manager.
- The inspector viewed the areas used by the children and observed the staff's interaction with them.
- The inspector sampled some documents, which included the children's and staff records, the record of the risk assessment and assessment reports.
- The inspector took account of the views of the parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Jennifer Liverpool

Inspection findings

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

Staff carry out regular observations of the children, which they use effectively to track children's progress and plan for the next stage in their development. Consequently, they provide purposeful activities to support children's development and learning. Staff make their communication clear by using simple words to build on babies' and young children's understanding and language development. Young children benefit immensely from a wide variety of sensory equipment that enables them to explore and discover how things change. Staff support young children to develop an awareness of numbers and counting through everyday routines. Children confidently make choices about their play as they have easy access to toys. Overall, more able children learn to manage their personal needs well, such as undressing and dressing themselves when they awake; they visit the toilet independently and help themselves to drinking water when they need to.

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

Key persons carry out an initial visit to the home of each child before they start. This enables the key person to find out about the children's specific needs and to agree with parents about children's settling arrangements and starting points. As a result, children develop a secure emotional attachment with their key persons from the outset and show that they feel safe and comfortable in their care. Children receive meals and snacks that are well balanced and nutritious, which helps to develop their healthy eating practices. Younger children enjoy regular exercise outdoors. Overall, they use a suitable range of equipment, such as a mini-climbing/slide frame, tricycles and scooters to develop their balance and coordination. However, the more able babies have fewer opportunities to use simple wheeled equipment to extend their physical skills.

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

Staff are secure in their knowledge and understanding of safeguarding procedures; this supports children's welfare needs. The provider uses effective recruitment and vetting procedures, which means that suitable, experienced and qualified staff care for children. Staff work well as a team and clear guidance allows them to provide well-balanced play and learning opportunities for children. Good relationships with parents help staff to meet the individual needs of the children well. They use a variety of methods to give and receive information from parents, including a daily diary for younger children, the setting's prospectus, notice boards and meetings to discuss children's progress and learning opportunities. The manager has addressed previous recommendations to improve record-keeping and children's safety. The provider effectively evaluates staff practice constantly to improve the quality of care and learning for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY288677
Local authority	City of London
Inspection number	814740
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School Governing Body
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	020 7626 6315

The Cass Child & Family Centre registered in 2004 and is situated in Aldgate, in the City of London. The centre is funded by the school's governing body and by the local authority. The day-care provision of the centre is open each weekday, from 8am to 6pm, for 48 weeks of the year. The provider employs two to three members of staff to work with the children. All staff hold a relevant qualification in early years at level 3.

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