

St George's Community Children's Project Ltd

7 Chilston Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN4 9LP



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

3 June 2015

21 April 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	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		Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

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

- The provider has not kept Ofsted informed of all director changes or provided relevant details for Ofsted to confirm the suitability of the nominated person and all directors. This is an offence and breaches a requirement of the Early Years Foundation Stage. It also breaches a requirement for the compulsory part of the Childcare Register.
- The managers monitor and supervise staff practices but do not fully ensure all staff consistently use questions well to extend children's language development.
- Staff provide resources for children to practise their early writing skills. However, they do not consistently encourage them to use these in different activities, particularly when outside.

It has the following strengths

- There are effective partnerships working with parents, professionals and other relevant early years settings. This means staff meet children's individual learning and care needs well. As a result, all children make progress from their starting points.
- Staff develop close relationships with children and support their individual needs well. As a result, they support children's emotional well-being positively. Staff manage the move between rooms sensitively and in discussion with parents.
- Staff and management have a secure knowledge and awareness of child protection processes in the event of concerns about children's welfare.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide Ofsted with the information needed to determine the suitability of all board directors and the nominated person.

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

- strengthen the monitoring of staff practice to ensure that all staff consistently extend children's language development by using questions skilfully
- enhance children's early writing skills further, particularly outdoors, to further support their literacy development.

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

- inform Ofsted about the nominated person and provide the following details: the name, date of birth, address and telephone number for all directors (compulsory part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a joint observation and held meetings with the nursery manager.
- The inspector looked at some children's records, including their learning assessments and spoke to some staff.
- The inspector spoke to some parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector checked evidence of safeguarding practices, staff recruitment, ongoing professional development and self-evaluation processes.
- The inspector observed activities in the play rooms and the outside play areas.

Inspector

Sue Taylor

Inspection findings

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

Staff have a good understanding of how to support children's learning through play. Key persons plan next steps in children's learning to help them progress. They share information regularly with parents which helps to support children's development at home. Staff make effective use of children's interests to motivate them. For example, following a favourite story, children are keen to use the large construction resources outside. There is a good range of interesting and unusual items in the rooms to encourage young children to explore and investigate. Staff teach children about letters and their sounds, for example, using alphabet spaghetti as a fun way for children to find familiar letters. Children listen well to stories and enjoy fun number songs. This helps develop their language and mathematical awareness.

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

The environment inside and outdoors is welcoming, safe and secure. However, overall, safeguarding practices are less effective as suitability checks for the board directors are incomplete. Children aged under two years old have a secure area outside with age-appropriate resources. This means they can play safely when the older children engage in physical play in the playground. Children develop good independence that gives them confidence and helps prepare them for school. For example, children aged from two years old help serve themselves at lunchtime and pour their own drinks. Children behave well and they play cooperatively with others, take turns and like having small tasks to do. Staff help children learn about healthy lifestyles as they benefit from energetic physical play outside. Children enjoy the nutritious snacks and nursery cooked meals.

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

Ofsted has been unable to complete suitability checks for all board directors as the relevant information has not been completed and returned. However, as they do not have unsupervised access to children the impact on safeguarding children is minimal. The management team tracks and monitors children's progress effectively. This enables them to ensure that staff make accurate assessments and note any differences in the progress of groups of children. Management supports the development of staff well. They provide regular supervision meetings and encourage staff to attend training or improve the level of their qualification. Managers find that training gives staff more confidence and develops the knowledge they have. Staff gain useful information that they share with others which helps them to all develop their practice further. Management regularly reflects on the project's practices. They encourage each group room to have their own development plans, so these relate closely to children's needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127584
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	840675
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	80
Number of children on roll	250
Name of provider	St Georges Community Childrens Project Ltd
Date of previous inspection	21 April 2011
Telephone number	01892 543982 or 539848

St George's Community Children's Project registered in 1982 and is located in Tunbridge Wells, Kent. It is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6.30pm for 51 weeks of the year. The term time only group is open from 9am to 3pm and the after school club from 3pm to 6.30pm during term time. The project supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language. There are 42 members of childcare staff, 30 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at Level 3 and one member of staff has a Level 5 qualification. One manager has Early Years Professional Status. The project receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years old.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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