

Saplings Extended day pre-school



Willow-Dene School, Swingate Lane ,Plumstead, London, SE18 2JD

Inspection date

5 June 2015

Previous inspection date

13 July 2010

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

- Staff use their good knowledge of how children learn to provide a wide range of exciting and stimulating learning experiences. This effectively promotes children's developmental progress.
- The manager uses self-evaluation effectively and includes the views of staff, parents and children to improve the quality of the care and education. This shows a good commitment towards maintaining continuous improvement.
- There is a strong key-person system established. Staff interact well with children, which means children can play and feel safe to explore.
- Staff have a secure understanding of their role and responsibility to safeguard children. They implement effective practices to minimise hazards to children.
- Effective partnerships with parents and external agencies are a central part of the provision. As a result, children benefit from all round support, which supports their care and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff provide healthy snacks and drinks for children to promote their understanding of healthy eating. However, they do not effectively encourage children to develop their understanding of how to look after themselves through involving them in the daily routine, such as snack time.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of everyday routines, such as snack time, to enhance learning and promote independence.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the inside and outside play areas and spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of staff working in the provision and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures to safeguard children's welfare.
- The inspector held a meeting with the pre-school manager.

Inspector

Zalihe Mehmet-Emin

Inspection findings

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

Children play happily in the stimulating and well-resourced environment where they enjoy a wide range of activities. Staff support children's communication and language development effectively as they engage in constant discussion, introduce new vocabulary and model language during their activities. In addition, there are good opportunities for children to develop their early writing skills, which prepare them for their next stage of learning and for school. Planning and assessment arrangements are thorough as parents contribute to their children's learning. Consequently, staff accurately identify children's next steps and narrow any gaps to ensure all children make good progress. Staff closely monitor and tailor individual planning for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Close communication with other agencies, such as the school, the local special school and the local authority advisors, ensures children receive cohesive support.

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

Staff provide a very welcoming learning environment where children settle well and make secure relationships with staff and their friends. Consequently, children feel happy and enjoy their chosen play. Children's behaviour is good as staff use effective strategies to motivate further learning and effectively support them to try out new experiences. For example, staff recognise individual achievements and give praise for their efforts. The highly stimulating outdoor area offers a variety of activities throughout the day. Staff supervise children well during physical activities, which enables them to explore and manage risks successfully.

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

Management and staff demonstrate a thorough understanding of their legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They have a clear understanding of safeguarding in relation to child protection issues. They receive regular training and are aware of their responsibility to report any concerns. As a result, children are safe. The manager ensures that new staff have relevant checks that confirm their suitability to work with children. The manager supports the staff team well through appraisals and individual meetings, providing good opportunities for them to undertake training and develop themselves professionally. This leads to better outcomes for all children. There are robust systems to monitor and assess children's progress and the quality of teaching. This helps to ensure children make consistent progress relevant to their individual needs and abilities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	401764
Local authority	Greenwich
Inspection number	842137
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	24
Name of provider	Saplings Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	13 July 2010
Telephone number	0208 317 7544

Saplings Extended Day Pre-School registered in 2001. It is run by a management committee and operates within Willow Dene School Early Years Foundation Stage premises, in the London Borough of Greenwich. The group opens Monday to Friday, term time only, from 9am until 12.30pm and some children stay until 3.30pm. Four members of staff work with the children and three hold appropriate childcare qualifications. The setting receives funding for early years education for children aged two, three and four.

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