

Conewood Street Childrens Centre

14 Conewood Street, LONDON, N5 1DL



Inspection date

26 June 2015

Previous inspection date

27 April 2010

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 failed to notify Ofsted about changes to the committee to ensure all members undergo suitability checks. Therefore, children's safety is not fully promoted. This breach relates to the associated requirement for the Childcare Register.
- Staff in the baby room do not always organise mealtime routines effectively. Therefore, children do not fully enjoy this experience, which leads to some frustration at times.
- Occasionally, staff miss opportunities to make effective use of all resources available, particularly outdoors, to extend children's learning experiences fully.

It has the following strengths

- Staff engage well with children during activities. They help to motivate children in their play and children make good progress in their learning overall.
- Staff establish secure links with other professionals, such as speech and language specialists. This enables them to provide additional support to children with special educational needs and/or disabilities so that they make effective progress relative to their starting points on entry.
- Staff establish good relationships with parents and encourage them to participate in their children's learning by sharing experiences from home. Parents comment that the staff provide them with useful information about their children's progress.
- Children enjoy nutritious meals and staff teach them about the importance of healthy foods to promote appropriate eating habits.
- Managers implement suitable recruitment procedures and all staff hold relevant qualifications.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the organisation of daily routines for babies, in particular during lunchtime, by reducing waiting times so they benefit from a more enjoyable and calm experience
- make full use of toys and resources to widen children's learning experiences indoors and outdoors.

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

- inform Ofsted of the names, dates of birth, addresses and telephone numbers of members of the management committee (compulsory part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the nursery and in the outside space.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held a meeting with the deputy manager.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the deputy 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 documents, evidence of the suitability of staff and a range of policies and procedures.

Inspector

Vanessa Linehan

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 all areas of learning. They gather information from parents about their children's stages of development when they start. They use this information, along with their observations, to plan activities to support their individual needs. Staff provide an effective balance of adult-led activities and those that children can freely choose. This encourages children to be independent learners. Staff ask suitable questions and encourage children to talk and share their ideas, which helps to promote their language and thinking skills. Staff lead small group sessions to extend children's learning. For example, older children discuss their feelings and draw a picture in the sand to show if they are happy or sad. This supports their personal and emotional development and further helps them prepare for their future learning.

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

The provider is unable to assure children's safety fully due to the breach relating to the safeguarding requirement. Despite this, children are generally happy and staff get to know them and their families. The nursery is adequately resourced, but on some occasions, staff do not make the best use of resources, particularly in the outside space, to promote children's learning further. Nevertheless, children enjoy using the outdoor area for active play, which supports their physical development. Staff encourage hygiene practices and ensure that children wash their hands to prevent the spread of germs. Older children enjoy setting the table and staff promote their independence by encouraging them to help themselves to food. However, young children become frustrated at times due to the prolonged time waiting for their food to cool down. Children generally play cooperatively together because staff set clear boundaries around acceptable behaviour.

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

The provider has failed to notify Ofsted of changes to the committee members to ascertain their suitability. Despite this, committee members do not have unsupervised access to children and any planned meetings are held in a separate room away from the children. Therefore, the impact on children's safety is minimal. Staff benefit from regular supervision and access ongoing training to improve their practice. For example, recent training on mathematical development has led to the purchase of new resources and staff have increased their use of mathematical language. This has supported children to make further progress in this area. Staff have a suitable knowledge of safeguarding issues and know how to report any welfare concerns. Managers adequately review the quality of the provision. They identify areas for improvement to ensure better outcomes for all children who attend the nursery.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY401289
Local authority	Islington
Inspection number	831083
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	54
Number of children on roll	64
Name of provider	Conewood Street Children's Centre
Date of previous inspection	27 April 2010
Telephone number	0207 5274440

Conewood Street Children's Centre was formerly registered as Martineau Community Nursery and moved to new premises in 2009. It is situated in the N5 area of the London Borough of Islington. The setting is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm, for 48 weeks a year. The provider is in receipt of free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The provider employs 25 members of staff. All staff hold relevant early years qualifications, including one with who has achieved Qualified Teacher Status.

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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