

Golden Lane Childrens Centre



Golden Lane Campus, 101 Whitecross Street, London, EC1Y 8JA

Inspection date

21 July 2015

Previous inspection date

25 November 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

- Children are happy and have good relationships with staff, including their key person. This promotes children's confidence and emotional well-being.
- Children are eager and motivated to learn and they enjoy experiencing activities across all areas of learning.
- Children with additional needs are exceptionally well supported. They are given the care and attention they need, including support from other professionals within the children's centre. This helps to ensure that all children make good progress.
- There is a calm environment in the centre and staff act as good role models. As a result, children behave well, play together cooperatively and learn to respect others.
- Staff have a good awareness of their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding children and know what to do if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. Robust recruitment procedures help to ensure the suitability of staff to work with young children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always promote children's independence and self-care skills, particularly during breakfast and lunchtime routines.
- Staff do not take all opportunities to encourage older children to practise their developing writing skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- promote further the self-care and independence skills of children during everyday routines
- increase opportunities for older children to practise their writing skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playrooms and the outdoor area.
- The inspector looked at a selection of children's records, planning documents, policies and procedures, as well as evidence of the qualifications and suitability of all staff.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the deputy head of centre.
- The inspector had discussions with the head of centre, deputy head of centre and staff.
- The inspector spoke with parents and carers, and took their views into account.

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 visit children at home before they start at the centre and gather information about them from their parents, which helps them to settle. They observe and assess children's abilities and strengths, and provide them with interesting activities to meet their individual developmental needs. Staff identify any areas where a child may need extra support and provide this through skilled planning and good-quality interaction. This ensures that all children make good progress. However, staff do not take all opportunities to extend the writing skills of older children, for example, by encouraging them to write their name on their artwork. Children learning English as an additional language are encouraged to use their home language in the centre to promote their language development. Partnerships with parents are strong. Information about children and their learning and development is shared effectively. Parents email photographs of family activities so that staff can discuss these with children. This helps staff to strengthen children's learning. Parents are invited to attend workshops on areas of child development, which helps them support their child at home.

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

Staff create a welcoming environment. All resources are displayed at a low level, making it easy for children to independently choose what they want to play with. Children have a good awareness of the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle. They enjoy nutritious meals and have lots of opportunities to play outside and engage in physical activities in the fresh air. Staff ensure that children learn to manage their own personal care needs. For example, regular hand washing promotes good hygiene routines. However, staff do not always extend children's independence further by enabling them to pour their own drinks, and they tend to intervene too quickly to cut up children's food.

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

Managers understand their responsibility to support the learning and development requirements. Children's progress is tracked with accurate assessments, allowing for gaps in the progress of groups of children to be identified and closed. Managers implement good processes of self-evaluation and provide ongoing training for staff, which helps to drive continuous improvements that benefit children. For example, staff learn how to use dolls to encourage children to express their emotions. Managers routinely monitor teaching skills and staff observe and feedback on each other's practice. This has a positive impact on the quality of teaching. The centre has developed an excellent partnership with the school in which it is located, as well as with other local schools. Teachers visit children in the nursery to get to know them, which prepares them for the move to school. Parents praise staff. They say their children make good progress and enjoy attending the centre.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY371508
Local authority	Islington
Inspection number	986547
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	99
Number of children on roll	120
Name of provider	Prior Weston Governing Body
Date of previous inspection	25 November 2010
Telephone number	07956 047 750

Golden Lane Children's Centre registered in 2008. It is part of Prior Weston School at the Golden Lane Campus in the London Borough of Islington. It is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm for 49 weeks a year. The centre receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 34 members of staff. All staff hold early years qualifications, six have Qualified Teacher Status and two are Early Years Teachers.

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