

Marks Gate Children's Centre Nursery



Marks Gate Childrens Centre, Lawn Farm Grove, ROMFORD, RM6 5LL

Inspection date 22 July 2015
Previous inspection date 11 May 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 have a good understanding of their responsibility to safeguard children. They have a good knowledge of local procedures and how to implement them if they have a concern about a child in their care.
- There is a strong emphasis on promoting children's emotional well-being and attachments. Therefore, children develop good relationships with staff and confidently explore and take part in activities.
- Children who speak English as an additional language make good progress in line with other children. Staff use signing, visual labels and prompts skilfully to promote children's language skills.
- Children are cared for and play in a warm, welcoming and child-friendly environment. This is because the provision has good-quality resources and equipment.
- Staff use a range of innovative ways to engage parents in their child's learning. This includes the sharing of stories, songs and a week of science activities.
- The provider and manager evaluate the quality of their service effectively and monitor its impact on how well children make progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always adapt plans creatively so that activities are directly linked to children's interests, so that are always fully engaged in their play and learning.
- Staff do not extensively plan for children's learning about the natural world in all areas of the environment, particularly in the garden area.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's development even further through creatively adapting planned activities that always engage children effectively in their play and learning
- consider a variety of ways in which children can explore and learn about the natural world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing in their rooms and garden areas.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager and discussed the teaching and learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and parents during appropriate times of the day.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including assessments, staff vetting details and policies.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Lisa Paisley

Inspection findings

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

Children engage in their play and learning well because staff plan activities that capture children's interests effectively and encourage them to play and explore. All the areas of learning are planned for well as children take part in creative activities, role play, physical activities and construction. Staff use observations and assessments to plan for children's next stage in their learning. Younger children develop their mathematical skills well as they enjoy making their own play dough and talk about colours, sizes, mixing and how many cutters they have. Staff prepare older children for their move to school by encouraging them to practise their writing skills. The development of these skills helps to prepare children for the next stage in their learning.

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

Children are settled and secure, and they thrive in a relaxed and happy environment. Children behave well and they are polite and respectful towards each other. This is because staff work closely with parents in promoting positive behaviour. Staff provide babies with good support during mealtimes and care routines, thereby promoting good attachments and well-being. Older children are encouraged to be independent as they wash their own hands and serve themselves drinks and food. Children enjoy healthy, balanced and nutritious meals and snacks which meet their dietary needs. Children have lots of opportunity to be physically active in the garden. For example, younger children enjoy blowing bubbles and older children use a selection of large play equipment with skill and confidence.

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

The provider and manager demonstrate a thorough understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. There are safe recruitment procedures with all Disclosure and Barring Service checks completed and recorded. This ensures that all adults working with children are suitable. The manager has a strong commitment to improve practice. The manager uses a range of monitoring systems, including regular staff supervision meetings and advice from the local authority, to build on good practice. Improvements include greater choice for babies and creating smaller circle time activities for two-year-olds. The staff are mutually supportive and foster a positive approach to continued professional development, conducting observations of each other's practice to evaluate the quality of activities and staff's interactions with children. This ensures that staff's practice continues to improve.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY399142
Local authority	Barking & Dagenham
Inspection number	830948
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	85
Name of provider	The London Early Years Foundation
Date of previous inspection	11 May 2010
Telephone number	0208 724 1301

Marks Gate Children's Centre Nursery was registered in 2009 and is one of a number of children's centre nurseries run by London Early Years Foundation (LEYF) on behalf of Barking and Dagenham Council. The children's centre nursery operates in the Romford area of the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham. The children's centre nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications, including two with Early Years Professional Status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The children's centre nursery provides funded early education for two, three-and four-year-old children.

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