

Skallywags

Crispins Church, Southwark Park Road, Rotherhithe, London, SE16 2HU



Inspection date

6 August 2015

Previous inspection date

14 December 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children's individual needs are met superbly in this well-led nursery. Managers have very high expectations for staff and children.
- Staff have every opportunity to develop their practice and gain further qualifications. This has an excellent impact on the quality of teaching and on children's learning.
- Managers have a deep understanding of children's achievements. They check children's progress extremely well to ensure any gaps in children's learning are swiftly addressed. Staff and managers regularly inform parents of their children's progress and take account of their responses when planning future activities.
- Children form excellent relationships with their key person and other staff. They are happy and settled because staff are caring and kind. Staff interact enthusiastically and skilfully with babies and children. As a result, children quickly develop into confident, independent learners who love to explore and investigate.
- Babies and children are kept safe. Managers and staff are extremely well trained, knowledgeable and vigilant. Managers implement excellent systems and procedures to check staff are suitable to work with children. Staff have an excellent understanding of how to spot signs of abuse and know who to contact if they have any concerns.
- An exemplary partnership with parents and other professionals ensures early and effective support for children with disabilities, special educational needs and those who speak English as an additional language. As a result, all children are fully included in the life of the nursery and make significant progress from their starting points.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review how the environment is arranged in the toddler room to continue to increase children's sense of achievement and belonging.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities in the playrooms and outside space.
- The inspector spoke to managers, staff and children during the day and held meetings with the managers. A joint observation was undertaken with the managers.
- The inspector spoke to parents and read their written feedback to gain their views about the nursery.
- The inspector viewed the nursery's written self-evaluation and action plans for the future.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including some children's assessment records and a sample of policies and procedures.

Inspector

Penny Spencer

Inspection findings

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

Regular and thorough assessments ensure staff understand precisely how well children are progressing. They use this information to plan a wide range of exciting activities that match the needs of babies and children extremely well. For example, staff provide excellent challenge to more able children. Staff provide an exceptional quality of teaching, and know when to intervene in children's play to support their progress very effectively. They are very skilled at developing and maintaining conversations with children. As a result, children develop excellent communication skills. Babies and toddlers are very attentive and join in enthusiastically with stories and songs. Children use their mathematical knowledge extremely well in their play, which helps them develop very confident counting skills. Children are exceptionally well prepared for the next stage in their education, including starting school.

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

Babies and children flourish in the friendly, welcoming surroundings. The pre-school and baby area are exceptionally vibrant. Staff value children's achievements and display their work to help them develop an excellent sense of belonging. However, displays in the toddler room are not as well developed, although the room is inviting. Parents are extremely positive about how well their children settle and form relationships. Children enjoy very good opportunities to play with each other across the age groups when outside. Older children are excellent role models to the younger ones, for example, they help them carry objects or build towers. Staff develop babies' growing mobility by using the excellent range of physical play resources. Older children are highly independent in managing their personal care. Children's behaviour is excellent and staff very consistently praise their achievements. This encourages children to do their very best.

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

Managers and staff are passionate about providing the very best care and learning. They are skilled at developing staff potential and provide training opportunities for them to take on specific roles, such as to lead physical development and healthy eating. As a result, there is an excellent focus on improving outcomes for children. Managers and staff regularly seek parents' views to make very effective improvements. Managers ensure they keep up-to-date with new changes and legislation by regularly updating their training and evaluating their practice thoroughly. As a result, the safety of children is given a very high priority. Action plans for future developments are clear and precise to target ongoing high quality improvements to benefit children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY371020
Local authority	Southwark
Inspection number	829205
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	48
Number of children on roll	65
Name of provider	Playdays UK Limited
Date of previous inspection	14 December 2009
Telephone number	02072 523 225

Skallywags Day Nursery is owned by Playdays UK Ltd. It opened in 1997 and operates from three rooms in a church in the London Borough of Southwark. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, all year round apart from bank holidays. It receives funding for free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The provider employs 14 members of staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at either level 2 or 3. In addition, four members of staff hold higher level qualifications, including one at level 4, one at level 8 and two staff who hold Early Years Professional status.

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