

John Smith Childrens Centre

90 Stepney Way, London, E1 2EN



Inspection date

14 August 2015

Previous inspection date

16 May 2011

| 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 access a broad range of experiences that promote their development in all areas of learning. Consequently, children are enthused in their learning and make good progress.
- New children are supported well by home visits and tailored settling-in plans that take into account the individual needs of families.
- The key-person system is effective. As a result, children form secure attachments with the staff that care for them.
- The manager effectively monitors staff performance to identify ongoing training needs. Staff attend training to help support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. This improves outcomes for all children.
- Parents are actively involved in their children's learning and development. Staff establish strong links with parents and a two-way flow of information ensures successful partnerships.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, staff do not make best use of all opportunities to extend children's learning through more meaningful discussions and skilful questioning.
- Staff do not always extend children's knowledge of their local area to broaden their understanding of the world around them.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide greater opportunities to engage all children in discussion through varying questioning techniques to increase their thinking skills
- strengthen children's knowledge of their local community to enhance their understanding of the world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector toured the premises with the manager.
- The inspector carried out a number of observations indoors and outside.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records, risk assessments and staff suitability records.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Bushra Khan

Inspection findings

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

Staff are skilled in using their knowledge of the learning and development requirements to plan purposeful learning experiences. This allows children to actively explore their own interests and make decisions about their choice of resources. Overall, staff encourage children to develop good communication skills by modelling language and introducing new vocabulary to extend learning. Children enjoy number songs and games, where staff skilfully use resources to engage them. As a result, children confidently count numbers in sequence. Children make good progress in their learning from their starting points. Staff complete detailed assessments and share children's progress with parents, including their child's next steps in learning. In addition, staff plan activities that have a clear focus on supporting children's development in all areas of learning and development.

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

Staff are attentive to children's individual needs. This helps children to settle quickly and encourages them to have a positive outlook on their learning. Staff manage children's behaviour well by reminding children to share resources, take turns and to be kind to their peers. Staff encourage children to use their self-help skills when tidying up after snack time and when helping to prepare group activities. This results in children acquiring essential skills for their future learning and prepares them well for school. Children understand the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Staff provide children with healthy options during snack time and encourage children to develop their physical skills when accessing the well-resourced outdoor environment. Children thoroughly enjoy developing their large physical skills, as they run, climb and balance. Staff remind children about their own safety and thus children successfully negotiate the space with one another.

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

The experienced manager has a good understanding of her responsibilities. She successfully drives improvement by taking into account the views of parents and staff. As a result, the quality of the nursery is always improving. Furthermore, the manager effectively monitors children's ongoing progress and works with staff to close any gaps in their learning. Staff receive detailed induction training and tailored supervised support to enable them to improve their practice. In addition, the manager implements a comprehensive recruitment procedure to ensure all staff that work with children are well suited. Safeguarding is effective. The staff team understand correct procedures to follow to keep children safe and are fully aware of prioritising their safety. Staff complete frequent risk assessments so that potential hazards are eliminated to keep children safe.

Setting details

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|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Unique reference number | 119578 |
| Local authority | Tower Hamlets |
| Inspection number | 840266 |
| Type of provision | Full-time provision |
| Registration category | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Age range of children | 1 - 8 |
| Total number of places | 22 |
| Number of children on roll | 27 |
| Name of provider | London Borough of Tower Hamlets |
| Date of previous inspection | 16 May 2011 |
| Telephone number | 0207 364 0537 |

John Smith Children's Centre registered in 1994 and is situated in Stepney, within the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The provider is in receipt of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The provider employs nine members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 3.

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