

St Stephen's Extended Day Care



St. Stephen's Children's Centre, Whitfield Road, London, E6 1AS

Inspection date 24 August 2015
Previous inspection date 23 June 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- Staff form very close relationships with children. Therefore, children's individual needs are always extremely well met and their confidence and emotional well-being are effectively supported.
- Teaching is outstanding. Enthusiastic staff provide a range of activities which interest and engage children. They skilfully question children, encouraging them to think for themselves. As a result, children are highly motivated, eager to learn and confident to express their views.
- Staff provide children with a wide range of interesting and challenging activities across all areas of learning, which help to promote their learning and development.
- Staff have an excellent understanding of how to keep children safe. They are fully aware of the procedures to follow should they suspect a child is at risk of harm. Children are extremely safe, as a result of robust recruitment measures and well-implemented policies and procedures.
- Staff have developed highly engaging strategies to involve parents. They keep parents extremely well informed about their children's care and progress and parents share information about what they do at home. Parents receive regular newsletters and are invited to meetings and reviews about their child's progress. This partnership ensures that children make the best possible progress.
- The leadership team is highly reflective and fully committed to driving improvement. They implement very effective measures to evaluate the strengths and areas for development. They fully involve parents and staff in this process and listen to their views in order to make positive changes.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to support each child's growing independence, especially that of very young children, so they learn to do more things for themselves.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning, both indoors and outside.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with senior leaders and looked at relevant documentation, including children's files and the suitability of staff to work in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Vanessa Linehan

Inspection findings

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

Staff use accurate observations and assessments of individual children to inform their planning, which ensures exceptional learning outcomes. Staff have excellent methods to track children's progress from their starting points and identify any specific needs so that these can be swiftly addressed. Staff are skilled at caring for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and secure additional support as necessary. They also support children who speak English as an additional language effectively, using words in their home language to promote communication. The indoor and outside environments are extremely well organised to promote children's choices. This enables children to initiate their own learning and receive support through high quality adult-led activities. For example, older children enjoy learning about letter sounds and how to write letters on a white board. Children are exceptionally focused and engaged during this activity. Arrangements for supporting children as they move on to the next stage of their learning are exceedingly well organised, which promotes excellent continuity of care and learning.

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

New children settle quickly as staff learn about their needs and interests from visiting them at home when they start at the nursery. Staff teach children the importance of adopting a healthy lifestyle. Children enjoy the benefits of daily fresh air and exercise and staff provide a range of nutritious meals and snacks, some of which are prepared with ingredients children grow themselves. As a result, children's health is promoted extremely well. Older children develop their independence and self-care skills well. They learn to cut up fruit and help set the table for lunch. However, staff do not always give younger children consistent opportunities to do things independently, such as feeding themselves and pouring drinks. Children's behaviour is exemplary as staff are positive role models. This encourages children to share and to be polite and kind to one another.

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

Leadership is inspirational. Managers and staff have high expectations and constantly strive for excellence. Staff have regular supervision meetings and are provided with opportunities for further training, which contributes to their outstanding practice. They use what they learn to support children's learning and development, for example by using sign language to promote communication and language skills. Staff work closely with other professionals, local schools and nurseries in order to improve outcomes for children. Parents speak highly of the nursery and report that their children enjoy their time there.

Setting details

Unique reference number	132386
Local authority	Newham
Inspection number	825536
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	57
Number of children on roll	24
Name of provider	London Borough of Newham
Date of previous inspection	23 June 2011
Telephone number	020 8471 1366

St Stephen's Extended Day Care opened in March 1995 federated with St. Stephen's Primary School in April 2010. It is situated in East Ham in the London Borough of Newham. The setting is open Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm. It provides funded early years education for children aged two, three and four years. A team of 12 staff work directly with the children, 11 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. One member of staff is an Early Years Teacher.

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