

Children's Garden Early Years Centre



University of East London, Children's Garden, East Building, 4 University Way,
London, E16 2RD

Inspection date	7 October 2015
Previous inspection date	17 January 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The nursery garden provides an exciting learning environment where children choose activities independently. For example, they learn to care for the garden, balance on logs and explore the large sand pit.
- The regular routine and rhythm of the day provide children with consistent routines and a calm, purposeful atmosphere, which helps them to feel secure.
- Management uses weekly meetings with staff to reflect on activities and to give them the opportunity to discuss children's progress and the effectiveness of the provision. Management and staff evaluate effectively and continuously make improvements.
- Staff talk to the children in a calm, respectful manner and explain sensitively how what we do impacts on others. This helps children to understand how to manage their own behaviour. Children show respect for each other and they are actively encouraged to look after others and the world around them.
- Parents are positive about the quality of the provision. They are confident their children are happy and that staff meet their children's individual needs. Staff keep parents regularly informed about their children's progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not always have many opportunities to use lots of energy and take part in vigorous physical play activities to develop their skills further.
- Although children enjoy freshly prepared foods, the menu does not offer much variety to help children learn about the importance of a balanced diet

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to take part in vigorous physical play and gain coordination and control as they use their bodies in a variety of ways within the daily routines
- extend further children's awareness of healthy eating and the need for variety in food.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children as they played and took part in daily routines.
- The inspector spoke with children, staff and the manager at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's profiles, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of staff working in the provision and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.

Inspector
Claire Nunn

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager works closely with the staff to develop the provision. They attend regular training, which helps them keep up to date and improve the quality of teaching across the nursery. Staff are supported through effective supervision to ensure they understand their roles. Safeguarding is effective. Management and staff have a thorough understanding of child protection issues. All staff attend safeguarding training and know what to do should a child be at risk of harm.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff get to know the children well through their regular observations, assessments and discussions with parents. All staff have a good understanding of the different ways children learn. Children are developing a good understanding of the world around them through a wide variety of activities, such as growing and tending the plants in the garden. Staff use assessments of children's learning to plan activities based on the individual needs of the children. They each have an individual profile which details their starting points and development. Staff share this information with parents and involve them in shaping their children's future learning. They identify any gaps in children's progress and take steps to close them. Staff promote children's language skills in a variety of ways, such as engaging children in discussions and modelling language during their play. Staff have a good understanding of how and when to communicate with children and how to extend learning experiences. They successfully encourage children to think and talk about their ideas.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are content and actively engaged in regular routines. Mealtimes are calm and sociable occasions with staff and children reciting stories and talking about their interests. The children listen to each other and serve their food, which helps them to be independent and caring individuals. The key-person system is effective. Staff develop close and respectful relationships with children and ensure they meet their care needs well. The settling-in process is flexible to meet the needs of children and families. Children are motivated and self-assured. They have plenty of opportunities throughout the day to choose what they want to play with. This helps all children to settle in well and become confident and motivated learners.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress. The quality of teaching throughout the nursery is consistently effective. Staff help children develop the skills they need for future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY341731
Local authority	Newham
Inspection number	827483
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	29
Name of provider	The University of East London
Date of previous inspection	17 January 2011
Telephone number	0208 2232663

Children's Garden is managed by the University of East London and registered in 2006. It is in the London Borough of Newham. The centre follows the Steiner (Waldorf) philosophy. The sessions run from 8am to 6pm every weekday during school term times. The centre receives funding for the provision of early years education to children aged two, three and four years. The manager is a qualified Steiner Waldorf teacher. The centre employs seven members of staff including the manager. Of these, two hold Qualified Teacher Status, three have relevant qualifications at level 6 and two have relevant qualifications at level 3.

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