

Limehouse Arches Day Nursery

21-23 Trinidad Street, London, E14 8AA



Inspection date

10 November 2015

Previous inspection date

2 October 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- Leadership and management are weak. This results in breaches of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and the Childcare Register.
- The lead person for safeguarding does not have a secure understanding of the action to take if an allegation is made against staff or the manager. As a result, the lead person cannot ensure that children are adequately safeguarded.
- Staff do not promote children's health effectively throughout the premises. Children do not always have clean bedding. Some staff do not follow all aspects of the nursery's no smoking policy.
- The provider does not monitor the quality of the provision adequately. She has not identified current weaknesses and the impact of these on children's care and learning.
- Staff deployment is not fully effective to ensure they respond promptly to children who need emotional support.
- Staff do not organise morning routines effectively to make the best use of all opportunities to promote children's learning.

It has the following strengths

- Staff make good use of settling-in arrangements and get to know children well. Children are settled and parents feel confident to leave them.
- Parents speak highly of staff and the manager, saying they are always available and deal immediately with any issues. Parents say they are kept regularly informed about their children's activities and are happy with the progress their children make.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and the Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due Date
■ ensure the lead person for safeguarding understands the setting's safeguarding policy and procedures, with particular regard to what to do in the event of an allegation against a member of staff or the manager and how to refer concerns to the appropriate agencies in a timely way	25/11/2015
■ ensure children's health is effectively promoted throughout the premises, with particular regard to supplying adequate clean bedding for all sleeping children, and ensuring that all staff follow and understand all aspects of the nursery's no smoking policy	25/11/2015
■ improve the deployment of staff in all rooms to meet children's emotional needs, and extend their learning.	25/11/2015

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

- ensure routines are organised effectively to make the most of all opportunities for children to learn
- improve the effectiveness of self-evaluation to identify and address weaknesses and improve outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and daily routines, inside and outside.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, children, parents and staff throughout the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents available.
- The inspection was carried out following the risk assessment process.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Nataliia Moroz

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is not effective. The manager and staff understand safeguarding procedures and what to do if they are concerned about a child's welfare. However, the lead person for safeguarding does not know the correct process to follow in the event of an allegation against any member of staff. The manager uses appropriate systems to recruit staff who are suitable to work with children. Staff attend relevant training to improve some aspects of practice; for example, improving their ability to manage children's behaviour more consistently. The manager ensures staff supervise children and meet ratios at all times. Staff deployment is not always effective. Younger children do not always receive the attention they need to feel emotionally secure. The manager monitors children's progress and identifies any gaps in their learning. However, ongoing support for staff has not ensured that teaching is consistently good. The manager has established appropriate relationships with local schools to promote a shared approach to children's learning. She maintains all required documentation and information about the setting appropriately. She informs parents of the complaint procedures and deals with these adequately.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The quality of teaching is variable. Staff do not always interact with children effectively to promote their play and learning consistently. For example, in the mornings, children do not have sufficient opportunities to play, explore and experiment. Staff keep them sitting at the tables for an inappropriate length of time for their age and some children become bored and restless. Staff place a strong focus on supporting children's language and communication. They speak clearly and extend children's vocabulary. For example, staff name objects for children, read books and sing songs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Staff do not consistently promote children's good health. They do not ensure all children have adequate clean bedding for sleeping. Not all staff follow the nursery's no smoking policy to ensure they protect children from the after-effects of smoking. Staff record and monitor children's accidents. Staff manage children's challenging behaviour effectively. For example, they praise positive behaviour, which boosts children's self-esteem. Key persons help new children to settle well. Children have friendly and caring relationships with adults and each other. They understand the importance of respecting each other's differences. Children follow appropriate hygiene practices and learn that healthy food is good for them.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children, including those who are learning English as an additional language, make progress which is typical for their age. Children become independent from a young age and learn the necessary skills for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	119581
Local authority	Tower Hamlets
Inspection number	1031505
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	95
Number of children on roll	57
Name of provider	Limehouse Arches Day Nursery Limited
Date of previous inspection	2 October 2013
Telephone number	020 7515 1480

Limehouse Day Nursery registered in 1992. It is located beneath the arches of the Docklands Light Railway in Limehouse, in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The nursery is open each weekday from 7am until 7pm for 51 weeks a year. The nursery is accredited to receive funding for children aged two, three and four years. The provider employs 30 members of staff, 22 of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 3 and above.

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