

Father Larkin Pre-School

St. Philip the Apostle Church, Coombe Road, LONDON, SE26 6QW



Inspection date	19 November 2015
Previous inspection date	3 March 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 well-qualified staff use effective teaching methods to promote the areas of learning. There is a strong promotion of communication and language development. This helps to ensure that all children, including those who are learning English as an additional language, make good progress.
- Staff implement an effective key-person system, which helps to promote children's emotional well-being. Children form secure relationships with staff.
- Parents 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.
- Staff communicate well with parents. They collect a wide range of information about what children like, know and can do before they start at the pre-school. This helps their key person to plan effectively to meet the individual needs of all children.
- Management and staff monitor children's progress and assessment frequently. Staff adapt planning to ensure all children make good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff sometimes miss opportunities to offer ideas about how parents could further improve children's specific learning at home.
- Occasionally, some activities do not capture children's interest fully to enable them to concentrate until the end. For example, towards the end of story time some children become distracted which does not help them to finish the activity.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore more successful ways to encourage all parents to contribute further to their children's learning at home
- revise routine times of the day to continually capture and encourage all children's enjoyment and sustain their concentration.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spent time observing the children in the nursery as they played.
- The inspector sampled children's information and development records.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, deputy managers and staff.
- The inspector talked to the parents to obtain their views about the nursery.
- The inspector and manager completed a joint observation.

Inspector

Shaneic Simpson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager has attended relevant training in child protection. Staff are knowledgeable and understand their role in child protection, which helps to promote children's welfare. There is a well-established programme of professional development. For example, staff attend regular training to improve their knowledge so that the quality of teaching is consistently good. Leaders regularly monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the educational programmes to make sure that they promote good outcomes for children. The manager is driven to improve the quality of the pre-school and effectively evaluates the practice of staff to identify where improvements can be made.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff promote good quality teaching, which has a positive impact on children's learning. Through effective observations of children's learning, staff are able to plan suitably challenging activities that support each child's progress and the next steps in their learning. Staff encourage parents to share information about their child's learning at home, which helps them to quickly identify if there are any gaps in learning. Staff are skilled in engaging children in stimulating activities that promote their learning. For example, children shared their knowledge about their pet snail and staff encouraged them to express their ideas through pictures, promoting early writing skills. Children have good opportunities to develop their physical skills and learn the benefits of sport and exercise. For example, they enjoy attending sessions at the local sports club.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well in the pre-school. There are well established positive relationships between staff and children, which help to ensure that all children feel valued. Children learn good socialising skills, for example, they learn about each other's similarities and differences. Children learn what is expected of them; they are able to confidently take turns and share with friends. Children learn to be independent. For example, staff provide opportunities for children to carry out small tasks such as preparing the tables before lunch. Children gain understanding about their wider community through opportunities such as exploring their natural environment and using facilities in their local environment.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning from their starting points. Children learn valuable skills and attitudes needed in the preparation for their future learning in school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY397658
Local authority	Lewisham
Inspection number	830816
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	22
Name of provider	Father Larkin Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	3 March 2010
Telephone number	07960759045

Father Larkin Pre-School is a committee run group which registered in 2009 in Sydenham, London. The group is open Monday to Thursday from 9.30am until 1pm, term times only. There are seven members of staff, who all hold an appropriate early years childcare qualification. The pre-school receives funding for children aged three and four years.

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