

The Park Nursery

3 Edwin Hall Place, London, SE13 6RN



Inspection date

27 October 2015

Previous inspection date

31 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Management does not use effective systems of supervision to monitor the quality of staff practice well enough in order to raise the quality of teaching. As a result, the quality of the provision has dropped since the last inspection.
- The quality of teaching is inconsistent. Some staff do not interact effectively with children to engage and challenge them to promote their learning and development well.
- Management does not use fully effective systems to track children's progress, such as groups of children, to identify and address any gaps in learning and development.
- Management does not use evaluation effectively to identify and target all areas for improvement.

It has the following strengths

- Staff provide a welcoming environment with a range of activities to interest and motivate children.
- Staff build effective relationships with children. Children are happy, secure and develop good levels of confidence. This prepares them for moves within the nursery or on to school.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff keep parents well informed about their children's development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ develop effective staff supervisions to monitor and identify weaknesses in practice and provide coaching and training to improve staff knowledge and skills	23/12/2015
■ raise teaching to a consistently good quality so all children receive sufficient challenge to help them make the best progress possible in their learning.	23/12/2015

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

- strengthen the existing tracking systems for children to help all children make the best possible progress in their learning
- strengthen evaluation to identify and target areas for improvement, and include the views of staff, parents and children in the process.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and learning experiences for children, inside and outside.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and had discussions with staff at appropriate times.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and children spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including documents relating to children's progress and safeguarding.

Inspector

Moira Atkinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have good knowledge of child protection issues and how to respond to any concerns to promote children's welfare. Management ensures that children are safe at all times, and identifies and removes potential risks. Although staff receive supervision sessions, management does not check the quality of teaching rigorously enough. Management does not use fully effective systems to track children's progress to identify gaps in learning, for example, for groups of children. Nevertheless, staff work with other professionals to meet individual children's developmental needs. Management does not involve all staff in the evaluation process to drive improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The quality of the teaching is variable. Staff promote babies' learning and development well. Staff engage one to two-year-olds and pre-school children in activities. However, they miss opportunities to extend children's learning, such as by asking challenging questions during activities to promote their thinking and communication skills. Some activities, such as singing with very young children, are not well organised and some children lose interest. Nevertheless, children enjoy dressing up and role play activities. They relish playing with natural resources and exploring the natural world in the outside area. Staff discuss children's progress with parents to keep them involved in their child's learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff use flexible settling-in procedures to meet children's individual needs. Staff involve parents from the start, gathering information about children's interests, skills and abilities that they use to help children settle. Children's behaviour is good. Staff help them to develop positive relationships with each other; they learn to share, take turns and consider the needs of others. Staff encourage them to look after their own personal needs to promote confidence in their abilities. Staff promote children's physical well-being effectively; children enjoy healthy meals and engage in physical activities in the well-resourced outdoor area. Staff sit with children at mealtimes; however, staff working with the younger children do not use this time to interact with children to promote their learning further. Children gain an understanding of risk through activities that encourage them to explore the environment.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Overall, most children make steady progress in their learning given their starting points. Children are acquiring some key skills they need for future learning. Older children are well prepared for their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY276942
Local authority	Lewisham
Inspection number	826760
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	58
Number of children on roll	58
Name of provider	The Park Nursery Partnership
Date of previous inspection	31 May 2011
Telephone number	02082851505

Park Nursery registered in 2004. The nursery operates within the grounds of the old hospital in Hither Green, in the London Borough of Lewisham. It is open 50 weeks of the year, five days a week from 8am until 6pm, apart from bank holidays and one week at Christmas and at Easter. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs a team of 20 staff including the manager, deputy and cook. All staff working with the children hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3 or above.

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