

Leys Children's Centre

Leys Avenue, Dagenham, London, RM10 9YR



Inspection date	12 February 2016
Previous inspection date	18 August 2009

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The managers are highly reflective and strongly committed to providing the highest standards of care and learning. They work closely with staff and other professionals to evaluate the provision and precisely target areas for improvement.
- Staff are well qualified and use their extensive knowledge to plan an inspirational range of activities and experiences to improve outcomes for children. These help to support children's developing interests and promote their learning exceptionally well.
- Monitoring of staff practice is highly effective and priority is given to staff's ongoing professional development. For example, managers encourage staff to observe outstanding practice, share ideas and attend training.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent. Staff successfully support parents in developing their understanding of the different stages of learning and development to help them target their children's learning at home further.
- Children's early language and communication skills are extremely well developed by staff, who use an excellent range of strategies to help develop children's speaking and listening skills, and extend their vocabulary.
- Children have formed close attachments with their key person. Staff are extremely sensitive to children's individual needs, and support their social and emotional needs exceptionally well. This supports children to be happy and inquisitive learners.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the already excellent opportunities for children who prefer to play outside to choose the resources they need to extend their play even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the setting's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector held discussions with parents about their children's learning and development and the quality of the setting.
- The inspector talked and engaged with children during their play.

Inspector

Shaneic Simpson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff are secure in their knowledge of the procedures to follow to safeguard children. They are confident of where to refer any concerns they may have regarding children's welfare. Staff make excellent use of training to improve their practice. For example, their already high-quality teaching of communication and language activities has improved further after recent training. The staff work extremely well with parents and children in their vision to ensure quality improvements are identified and very effectively addressed. For example, parents speak highly of the child-centred environment and are overjoyed with the care that staff provide for their children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff use their thorough understanding of how children learn to help ensure that learning opportunities capture children's interests and stimulate their desire to experiment, explore and investigate. For example, while young babies play with sensory resources, staff use their interest to help them learn new words and build on their communication skills. These experiences help to prepare children exceptionally well for their next stage in learning and for school. Staff's experience and knowledge help them to recognise gaps in children's learning. Staff quickly seek additional help, working in excellent partnerships with other professionals, to close these gaps. Staff meticulously use their planning, observation and assessment to precisely identify children's next steps in learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The key-person system works extremely well and staff promote children's emotional development highly effectively. Children are cared for in a safe, extremely welcoming and, overall, well-resourced and stimulating environment; although, on occasion, children have to ask staff for additional resources, such as asking for pens to use with the clipboards when playing outside. Children's self-esteem and confidence are consistently fostered and built on through the meaningful praise and encouragement they receive from their key person. Staff are highly skilled in helping children to develop their social skills, such as working together and respecting each other. Children demonstrate exemplary behaviour, such as when waiting for their turn or sharing with their friends.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are inspired to learn through their play, and staff use activities exceptionally well to build on what children know and can do. For example, staff encourage children to play in the fresh air and to exercise each day. In addition, they provide children with real objects, such as fresh fruits and vegetables, to explore during play. All children, including those in receipt of funding, make excellent progress in their learning in relation to their starting points. Children rapidly learn skills that prepare them in readiness for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY388186
Local authority	Barking & Dagenham
Inspection number	830110
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	49
Number of children on roll	91
Name of provider	The London Early Years Foundation
Date of previous inspection	18 August 2009
Telephone number	020 8724 1984

Leys Children's Centre is one of many nurseries run by London Early Years Foundation. It registered in 2009. It is situated in Dagenham, in the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham. The nursery is open each weekday, from 8am to 6pm, all year. The nursery employs 10 members of staff; of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The setting supports disabled children and those who have special educational needs.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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