

The Mustard Seed Christian Pre-School



Herne Hill Baptist Church, Half Moon Lane, Herne Hill, London, SE24 9HU

Inspection date	29 February 2016
Previous inspection date	22 June 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The manager reviews the delivery of the educational programmes and monitors children's progress well, including different groups of children, which helps her ensure that all make good progress.
- There are extremely strong partnerships with parents. For example, the parents' forum contributes ideas that staff use positively to drive improvements in the provision.
- Staff make regular assessments of children's learning. They use the information they gather to effectively plan suitably challenging activities for children. Children are engaged well and motivated to learn.
- Children feel safe and receive high-quality care. They respond excellently to the rules of behaviour, and learn how to keep themselves safe and healthy exceptionally well.
- Children are highly valued as individuals. They follow staff's exceptional lead in promoting their awareness of respect and kindness. This helps children to develop a very strong understanding of the feelings of others.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently use all opportunities to gather information from other early years settings that children also attend, to influence their plans and promote continuity in children's learning further.
- At times, there are less challenging opportunities made available to those more able children, particularly those who enjoy getting involved in activities outdoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build even stronger relationships with other settings that children attend to ensure more consistency in their learning
- create more opportunities to present activities that consistently challenge more able children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the pre-school manager.
- The inspector held discussions with the pre-school manager, staff and children. She also spoke to some parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including the pre-school's self-evaluation and evidence of suitability of staff working in the setting.

Inspector

Gillian Cubitt

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager constantly reviews staff practice and monitors the provision well. She ensures all staff are confident in the procedures to follow to keep children safe. Safeguarding is effective. Robust recruitment and induction procedures are followed to help ensure staff are suitable and knowledgeable for their roles. Staff are vigilant in protecting children, for example, the premises are secure and well maintained so that children can play in safety. The experienced and knowledgeable staff demonstrate a passion to continue their professional development. They use their skills to deliver a variety of opportunities that promote children's continual progress in all areas. Staff develop strong partnerships with local schools, which helps children's smooth move on to school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make accurate assessments of children's abilities and use these to plan activities that children enjoy and that support their learning. Children experiment with resources, such as sand, paper, card, glue and scissors, which help to develop their creativity. Children practise their counting skills in various ways, for example, as they sing and use actions, and as they count bean bags during physical activities outside. Children's literacy and writing skills are supported well. Staff help children to recognise sounds and letters, and practise their early writing skills, in all areas of their play. Children enjoy learning about the world and other cultures. For example, children are introduced to the basics of origami, which helps their physical development and appreciation of Japanese art.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children develop exceptional confidence during activities, such as 'show and tell', which helps them to express themselves clearly in front of others. Children thrive in this vibrant, welcoming pre-school. They display excellent behaviour and a positive attitude to learning. Their levels of independence are exceptionally high and their attitudes and politeness to their friends are cultivated extremely well. For example, children take responsibility for choosing when they want their snack and politely inform staff when they are taking a break. Children eat fresh fruit, and staff help them to learn about being healthy and how their body works.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make consistent progress from their starting points. Children's individual learning styles are incorporated by staff into activities to help successfully close any gaps that prevent children from reaching their goals. All children become confident in their communication, including those who are learning English as an additional language. Children effectively manage their own personal care needs to a high standard, which significantly supports their independence as they move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	107607
Local authority	Southwark
Inspection number	824841
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	30
Name of provider	Mustard Seed Christian Pre-School Committee
Date of previous inspection	22 June 2011
Telephone number	02072745445

Mustard Seed Christian Pre-School registered in 1997. It is located in Herne Hill in the London Borough of Southwark. It operates from rooms that are part of Herne Hill Baptist Church. The group opens for five sessions each week, Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 12.30pm, during term times. There are four staff who work with children, three of whom hold relevant early years qualifications.

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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

