

Thomas Calton Creche

Southwark Adult Education Service, Alpha Street, Peckham, SE15 4NX



Inspection date

28 April 2016

Previous inspection date

8 September 2011

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

- Staff use their observations well to plan a varied range of learning experiences that support children's development effectively. Children achieve well.
- Staff are positive role models. For example, they place a high focus on helping children to develop good social skills. Children behave well and learn to share, take turns and use good manners.
- The manager provides strong leadership and is very dedicated in her drive for improvement. This includes addressing the recommendations raised at the last inspection and priorities for further improvement based on feedback from staff, children and parents.
- Staff use effective methods to support children who are learning English as an additional language. This includes using interpreters to share information with parents, and various signs, actions and their home language to help children speak and understand English. Staff successfully help all children to make good progress from their starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, children do not have enough time to explore their own ideas fully and extend their thinking further.
- Staff do not always make the most of opportunities to develop further children's understanding of the importance of healthy eating.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- allow children enough time to explore their own ideas and develop their thinking further
- strengthen opportunities for children to learn more about the importance of a healthy lifestyle.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector viewed documentation, including children's records, self-evaluation, policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents.

Inspector

Nicola Chambers

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff attend regular safeguarding training and fully understand their role to protect children from harm. They know the procedures to follow if they have concerns about children's welfare. Staff implement effective risk assessments and conduct thorough safety checks to provide safe learning environments for children. Regular team meetings and training sessions help staff to constantly update their knowledge and skills. For example, following training, they introduced a range of effective strategies to promote children's understanding of letters and sounds and extend their literacy development. Staff establish positive partnerships with parents. This includes regularly informing parents about their children's progress, such as through daily discussions, learning journals and meetings.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The manager successfully monitors children's development. This helps to ensure that all children progress well and that staff address any gaps in their learning quickly. Staff support children's early literacy skills effectively. For example, children eagerly join in with story sessions and songs. Furthermore, children enjoy visits from the local library where they choose books to take home and share with their parents. Children enjoy experimenting and investigating, for example, as they explore a variety of textures when making play dough. Staff use many opportunities well to develop children's mathematical skills. For example, children learn about number, size and measure during their play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are friendly and attentive. Children develop secure attachments with their key person. Staff successfully promote children's confidence and independence. For example, children happily make choices in their play and put on their coats before going outdoors. Staff use praise and encouragement skilfully to help raise children's self-esteem. Staff teach children how to identify and manage risks for themselves. This helps children to think carefully and recognise when it is safe to cross the road. Children learn about diversity and the wider world through a variety of experiences. For example, they take part in cultural celebrations and try foods from around the world.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and develop the skills they need for their eventual move on to school. Children are motivated learners. They are keen to investigate and take part in new learning experiences. Children confidently practise their emerging writing skills. They identify letter sounds and write their own name. Children develop their physical skills well. They demonstrate good control and coordination when handling a wide range of objects and equipment.

Setting details

Unique reference number	107420
Local authority	Southwark
Inspection number	987773
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	14
Name of provider	London Borough of Southwark
Date of previous inspection	8 September 2011
Telephone number	0207 358 2119 or 0207 525 2119

Thomas Calton Creche registered in 1995. The provision operates from a self-contained room in the Adult Learning Centre in Peckham. The provision serves adult learners from the local community who attend courses at the centre. Subject to availability, places are offered to children whose parents are not studying at the centre. It is open from 8am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, for 48 weeks of the year. The nursery employs five members of staff, all of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3. The manager holds an early years qualification at level 5. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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