

Croft Day Nursery

75 Woolwich Road, London, SE2 0DY



Inspection date

1 June 2016

Previous inspection date

24 October 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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

- Key persons know their key children well and meet their individual needs very effectively. The warm relationships they build help children feel secure. Staff gain good information from parents to provide tailored settling-in arrangements for each child.
- The management team successfully seeks the views of parents and children. It has worked closely with staff and the local authority advisors to identify and make ongoing improvements since the last inspection. The management team and staff constantly strive to make changes to move the nursery forward.
- Children are very safe in the nursery. Managers and staff have an excellent and up-to-date understanding of their role in safeguarding children, to keep them safe and protect them from harm.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff share useful information with parents to support children's care and learning needs consistently. For example, they share observations and next steps in children's individual learning with parents on a weekly basis. Children make good progress from their starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always manage daily routines effectively; for example, occasionally, children end up waiting for staff to do tasks that they are capable of doing themselves.
- At times, staff do not use opportunities to encourage children to use their writing skills purposefully, such as to support their readiness for school.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review and develop daily routines to ensure waiting times for children are not too long and that staff encourage them to manage simple tasks themselves
- extend opportunities for children to purposefully use their writing skills in readiness for school.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children playing and staff interacting with them.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff, children and parents.
- The inspector sampled relevant documentation, including the safeguarding policy and summaries of children's progress.

Inspector

Rachel Hurford

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All staff have appropriate training and fully understand how to protect children and keep them safe. The management team uses its understanding of requirements and new legislation to make improvements. It works alongside staff and supports them well to improve practice. The management and staff develop good partnerships with other childcare settings and professionals. For example, they share information about children's learning and development with other professionals to fully support those with special educational needs. The management team uses very effective systems to monitor children's progress. It analyses observations and assessments to identify any gaps in teaching and learning and quickly provides support to close these.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a wide range of resources and skilfully extend children's learning as they play. For example, children have fun using their senses as they experiment how colours change during a painting activity with sweet-smelling paints. Staff promote children's language development well, including those learning English as an additional language. Staff interaction with children is consistently good. For example, they show genuine interest in children's ideas and engage them in extended conversations. Children have good opportunities to learn about the world around them and how to care for living things. For example, older children find snails and use magnifying glasses to observe them. They talk about what the snails need to live, and then carefully put them back in the nature garden afterwards.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have a good awareness of healthy lifestyles and exercise. For example, staff talk to children about healthy foods at lunch time. Children explore the local community, such as through walks to the local woodland areas and library. Children are motivated and challenged to learn, they are given opportunities to make independent choices about their play. Staff share their clear expectations of children's behaviour with them. They offer positive praise for good behaviour and children are well behaved. Staff act as good role models and provide a positive atmosphere for children to learn in.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are happy and confident, and staff promote their high levels of self-esteem. Children show excitement in small group and one-to-one activities. For example, babies bounce up and down with excitement during play with their key person. Children show high levels of concentration in challenging and engaging activities. All children, including those with special educational needs, are making good progress and develop a good range of skills ready for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY461638
Local authority	Bexley
Inspection number	1028315
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	58
Number of children on roll	70
Name of registered person	Oakhurst Guardian Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP529534
Date of previous inspection	24 October 2013
Telephone number	01322 431045

Croft Day Nursery registered in 2013. It operates in Bexley, Kent. The nursery is open Monday to Friday, all year round, from 7.30am until 6pm. It is closed for one week at Christmas and on public bank holidays. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 18 members of staff who work directly with the children. Of these, 16 hold appropriate early years qualifications at either level 2 or 3, and one member of staff holds a qualification at level 5.

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