

South Acton Childrens Centre

Castle Close, Acton, London, W3 8RX



Inspection date

7 June 2016

Previous inspection date

25 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		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

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

- The management team does not always ensure that a member of staff trained in paediatric first aid is deployed effectively to respond to emergencies quickly. On occasions, children have been on outings without a member of staff who has paediatric first aid training to accompany them.
- Children do not always have opportunities to make choices about where they play, especially those who have a preference, indoors or outdoors.
- Staff miss some opportunities to fully extend children's learning during play.
- The management team does not always monitor and evaluate all aspects of practice thoroughly enough to ensure that it fully supports children's welfare.

It has the following strengths

- Staff have good methods to gather information about children's individual needs. For example, key staff make home visits prior to the children starting to enable them to gather information about children's individual needs and their achievements at home.
- Staff build good relationships with parents and other early years professionals to enable them to work together to encourage children's learning and support them to reach their potential. Children make good progress in their learning.
- Children enthusiastically explore an exciting range of challenging activities that capture their interest and extend their learning well.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage the provider must:

- | | Due Date |
|---|-----------------|
| ■ ensure that at least one person who has a current paediatric first aid certificate accompanies children on outings, and that a paediatric first aider is deployed effectively to enable them to respond to emergencies quickly. | 14/06/2016 |

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

- provide a wider range of opportunities for children to make choices about where they play, particularly for those who prefer learning outdoors
- review how staff use opportunities to extend children's learning when they are playing independently
- develop self-evaluation processes further to effectively monitor practice relating to children's welfare.

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed two joint observations with members of the management team and discussed the findings.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed observations in the playroom and the outdoor environment.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their views.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including staff records, self-evaluation and children's learning records.

Inspector

Lorraine Sparey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Overall, there are sound methods to monitor and evaluate most of the provision. In particular, the methods to monitor the educational programmes are good. However, the management team does not fully review the welfare requirements to ensure that it consistently meets them. Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff have a good understanding of the policies and procedures to follow if they have a child protection concern. There are sound recruitment and vetting procedures that enable the management team to ensure that staff are suitable for their role. Staff have good opportunities to develop their teaching methods and understanding of how to provide a stimulating learning environment. This helped staff to make equipment more accessible, enabling children to be more independent. However, staff have not fully considered how children use the outside area throughout the day to provide even greater choice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan and provide a wide range of learning opportunities. For example, they encourage children to explore ice with many different objects hidden inside. Children excitedly bang the ice with different tools. They show a great sense of achievement when they release the interesting objects and explore the different textures. Staff complete observations and use their good knowledge of the children to plan the next stages in their learning. They involve parents well, such as encouraging them to share children's special achievements and attend sessions on a Saturday to observe them in the nursery.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Staff build warm and trusting relationships with the children, who are confident to leave their parents and enjoy learning. Children behave well. Staff are positive role models and they help children learn to share and take turns. In general, staff support children's health, safety and well-being appropriately. For example, children benefit from healthy and nutritious meals, which are freshly prepared. Staff follow babies' home routines closely. However, the management team does not always deploy staff effectively to ensure they can respond quickly in an emergency on the premises or an outing. Although staff with the required first aid training are on the premises, they are not always close to the room that the babies and younger children use.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. They are confident and independent learners who are eager to try new activities. For example, children thoroughly enjoy painting and exploring musical instruments. They settle well, learn to play with others and develop their early language well. Children gain the skills they need for the move to pre-school or nursery.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY296597
Local authority	Ealing
Inspection number	985024
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of registered person	London Borough of Ealing
Registered person unique reference number	RP519192
Date of previous inspection	25 May 2011
Telephone number	0208 992 0724

South Acton Children's Centre registered in 2005. The nursery is in South Acton, in the London Borough of Ealing. The nursery opens each weekday from 8am to 6pm for 51 weeks of the year. A team of four staff works with the children and there are also two peripatetic members of staff. All staff are qualified in early years, including one member of staff who holds a qualification at level 6.

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