

St Thomas' Hospital Day Nursery

Gassiot House Lambeth Palace Road, London, SE1 7EH



Inspection date	16 December 2016
Previous inspection date	2 December 2013

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

- Managers are dedicated and knowledgeable. They are ambitious and have high expectations of all staff.
- Rigorous self-evaluation is used effectively by managers to continuously improve the provision. They make targeted improvements that have a positive impact on the outcomes for children.
- Staff are skilled in observing and listening to young children. They give children time to think about and use their own ideas to express their thoughts.
- Staff are kind, warm and welcoming. They are polite to each other and very good role models for the children. They are successful in supporting the personal development of children. For example, children are taught how to care for each other and their surroundings.
- The nursery offers a caring and stimulating environment. Children progress well, are eager to learn and share that learning with others.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff identify effectively what children need to learn next, but sometimes the planning of adult-led activities is not as precise as possible at focusing children's learning on their identified goals.
- Staff do not make the best of opportunities to help children to understand and respect the lives and experiences of others living in the local community who may be different from themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support staff to target the planning of adult-led activities more precisely to work towards achieving the intended learning outcomes
- help children to have a greater understanding of the backgrounds and beliefs of others represented in the local community.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a variety of activities, including outdoor play.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team.
- The inspector looked at a selection of policies, children's records, documents relating to the suitability of staff and the nursery's self-evaluation document.
- The inspector talked to staff and parents to gather their views.

Inspector

Ceri Callf

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All staff are confident in their understanding of the signs and symptoms which may give them cause for concern about a child's welfare and know the procedures to follow. Staff have completed relevant training about how to identify any children who may be at risk of being exposed to extreme ideas or behaviours. Recruitment and induction procedures carried out by management are highly effective, helping to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Managers are supportive of staff's professional development, for instance, by providing regular training. They have ongoing plans to improve specific areas around the nursery. For example, an existing outdoor space is being further developed to enhance children's outdoor play experiences.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

All children's progress is carefully assessed and monitored and their next steps in learning carefully planned. Staff are skilled in making learning exciting. For example, when reading stories staff use different voices, which delights the children. This helps them listen carefully and remember what they have learned. Staff work effectively with other professionals, when needed, helping to provide consistency. Staff provide parents with information about their children's care, learning and development. They support parents in extending their children's learning at home. Children's physical development is supported well. For example, they make use of scooters to help them develop their ability to balance. Overall, children are well prepared for the next stage in their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff make good use of regular training to improve children's emotional well-being. For example, they use innovative methods to support children in learning to share. There are strong systems in place to support children when they move rooms in the nursery and then on to school. This has a positive impact on their social well-being. Children learn how to carry out simple self-care tasks. For example, they put coats on before they go out to play and pour their own water at lunchtime. Staff encourage healthy eating and the meals provided for children are appealing and nutritious. This helps children learn about leading a healthy lifestyle and supports their physical well-being.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy their learning. The very youngest children are keen to be involved in activities. For example, they join in singing activities with older children, developing their confidence and language skills. Older children enjoy problem solving, for example, as they use construction blocks together. They talk about what they are building and the best way to achieve their goals. Children behave well and are enthusiastic and motivated learners.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY268854
Local authority	Lambeth
Inspection number	1061727
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	0 - 4
Total number of places	102
Number of children on roll	75
Name of registered person	Guys and St Thomas NHS Foundation Trust
Registered person unique reference number	RP908034
Date of previous inspection	2 December 2013
Telephone number	020 7188 6499

St Thomas' Hospital Day Nursery registered in 2003. The nursery is open each weekday from 7am to 7pm, all year round except bank holidays. The nursery is in receipt of funding to provide free early education to children aged three and four years. There are 27 staff, all of whom hold relevant early years qualifications from level 3 to level 6.

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